Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-92-217
Monday
9 November 1992

Daily Report
Latin America

FBIS-LAT-92-217 9 November 1992

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

FRONT PAGE

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Official Says Petroleum Production Could Increase *[NOTIMEX]* 2
Further on Alarcon's Visit to Venezuela, Talks 2
Notes Torricelli Bill, Clinton Win *[Havana Radio]* 2
Signs Cooperation Agreements *[Havana Radio]* 2
Havana City Province Electoral Commission Formed *[Havana Radio]* 3
Station Commentary Explains Electoral Procedures *[Havana Radio]* 3
R. Castro Urges Fight for Cuba's 'Very Existence' *[Havana TV]* 3
Fidel Attends International Fair Award Ceremony *[Havana TV]* 4
Comments on Growing Enterprises *[Havana Radio]* 4
Closes Award Ceremony *[Havana Radio]* 5
Panama's Endara Stand on Bush, Referendum Viewed *[Havana Radio]* 5
Commentary on U.S.-Cuba Friendship Cargo Donations *[Havana Radio]* 6
ATAC Seeks To Increase Efficiency in Next Harvest *[Havana Radio]* 6

Barbados

Further Reaction to Clinton Presidential Win 6
PM Congratulates Clinton *[CANA]* 6
Opposition Leader Forde Reacts *[Bonaire Radio]* 7

Haiti

MDN Seeks 'Quiet Revolution', Hails Clinton Win *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 7
Mayor-elect Accuses Salomon, Seeks Reinstatement *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 7
Bauduy Describes 'Hidden Side' of Anse-a-Pitre Arrest *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 8

Jamaica

'Possible' Collaboration in Tourism With Cuba Noted *[CANA]* 9

MEXICO

Elections Suspended in Four Municipalities *[Madrid EFE]* 10
Salinas Sends Clinton Congratulatory Letter *[Mexico City TV]* 10
Notes Clinton Support of NAFTA *[NOTIMEX]* 10
NAFTA Negotiator on Sovereignty Over Oil *[Mexico City TV]* 11
U.S. Sanctions on Fishing Practices Condemned *[NOTIMEX]* 11

CENTRAL AMERICA

El Salvador

FMLN Party Registration Request Rejected *[San Salvador TV]* 12
Democratic Convergence on FMLN Registration Delay *[San Salvador Radio]* 12
Government Denounces Leftist 'Rumor Campaign' *[EL DIARIO DE HOY 7 Nov]* 12
Zepeda Criticizes Ad-Hoc Commission Report *[San Salvador Radio]* 13

UN Official Warns Government on Treaty Compliance *[San Salvador Radio]* 13
Deputies Say UN Verification Unnecessary *[San Salvador TV]* 13
Inter-Union Association Requests UN Verification *[San Salvador TV]* 14

Guatemala

President Serrano Comments on Human Rights *[Guatemala City TV]* 14
Serrano Reaffirms Need For Permanent Peace Talks *[NOTIMEX]* 15
CIDH President Revokes URNG Letter *[SIGLO VENTIUNO 5 Nov]* 15

Nicaragua

Chamorro Says EPS To 'Exist' During Her Term *[ACAN]* 16
Comments on Meeting With Army Leaders *[Managua Radio]* 16
UNO To Pressure Chamorro To Dismiss H. Ortega *[Managua Radio]* 17
Godoy Says President 'Yielded' to Military *[NOTIMEX]* 17
Commentary on U.S. Elections, Effect on Cuba *[Managua Radio]* 18

Panama

Further on Bomb at Attorney General Cruz's Office 18
M-20 Denies Involvement *[Panama City Radio]* 18
Authorities Arrest Two *[Panama City TV]* 19
Endara Comments on Attack *[Panama City TV]* 19
Presidential Spokesman Comments *[Panama City Radio]* 19
Ford Condemns Attack *[LA PRENSA 8 Nov]* 20
Attorney General Explains Attack *[Panama City TV]* 20
Deputy Minister, Police Chief Comment *[Panama City TV]* 21
Legislators Comment on Attack *[Panama City TV]* 21
Government Officials React *[Panama City TV]* 22
Several Communiques Condemn Bombing *[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 7 Nov]* 23
Gonzalez Says Authorities Blocking Cruz Case *[LA PRENSA 8 Nov]* 24
Commentary Views Effects of Clinton Victory *[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 6 Nov]* 24
UN Protocol Abolishing Death Penalty Ratified *[EL PANAMA AMERICA 7 Nov]* 25

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

'Concern' Voiced Over Clinton Policies on Trade *[CLARIN 5 Nov]* 26
President Addresses Chamber of Commerce *[Buenos Aires Radio]* 26
Minister's Income Revelations Spark 'Fierce Debate' *[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 8 Nov]* 27
Menem Praises Army's Struggle Against Subversion *[LA PRENSA 5 Nov]* 27
Cooperation Agreement With UK Becomes Law *[LA PRENSA 5 Nov]* 28
Foreign Minister Visits China, Meets Leaders *[cross-reference]* 28

Bolivia

MNR Deputy Humboldt Escapes Gun Attack in Sucre *[La Paz Radio]* 28
Interior Ministry To Investigate Attack *[La Paz TV]* 29

Brazil

Economic Team Proposes Constitutional Amendments *[O GLOBO 4 Nov]* 29
Government Details Fiscal Reform Bill *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* 30
Industry, Labor Ministers Explain Fiscal Reform *[Brasilia Radio]* 30
Guajajara Indians Seize Buses, Take 370 Hostages *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* 31

Chile

Government Signs Drug Agreement With Bolivia *[Santiago Radio]* 31
Aylwin Departs on 15-Day Trip to China, Japan *[Santiago Radio]* 31
Carabineros Seizes Arsenal, Arrests Terrorists *[Santiago Radio]* 31

Colombia

FARC Ambush Reportedly Kills 25 Policemen *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 32
Minister, Police Chief Comment *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 32
Insurgents Detonate 10 Bombs in Bogota *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* 32
Guerrillas Attack Pipeline in Norte de Santander *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* 32
Gaviria Addresses Nation, Calls For Unity *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio, TV]* 33
CNGSB 'Commandos' Carry Out Over 30 Attacks *[NOTIMEX]* 34
'State of Internal Disturbance' Declared *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* 34
Gaviria Address to Nation *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio, TV]* 34
Gaviria Speech on Air Force Anniversary *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* 36
Police Report Capture of Escobar Cartel Figure *[AFP]* 37
Defense Minister Authorizes Self-Defense Groups *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 38
Governor Denies Guerrillas Control Arauca Department *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* 38

Equador

Duran-Ballen Sends Messages to Clinton, Bush *[Madrid EFE]* 39
Congress President on Session To Dismiss Ministers *[Quito Radio]* 39
Deputy Alvear Comments *[Quito Radio]* 39
Cuba Seeks New Crude Oil Purchase Agreement *[Quito Radio]* 40

Paraguay

Military, Police Communique Urges Unity *[Asuncion TV]* 40
Domingo Laino Wins PLRA Presidential Nomination *[Asuncion TV]* 41
President Files Slander Charges Against Nogues *[ABC COLOR 4 Nov]* 41
U.S. 'Protectionism' Under Clinton Noted *[NOTICIAS 6 Nov]* 42

Peru

Fujimori Delays Death Penalty Referendum *[Lima TV]* 42
Violence Continues Despite Guzman's Arrest *[Lima TV]* 43
Ministry's Drug Control Directorate in 'Disarray' *[EXPRESO 29 Oct]* 43
Coca Leaf Production Increases in San Martin *[EXPRESO 29 Oct]* 44
1,500 Rebels Reportedly Surrender to Authorities *[Lima TV]* 44

Bolivia

La Paz Radio reports on an attack against Nationalist Revolutionary Movement Deputy Ciro Humboldt Barrrero early on 6 November. The radio reports that "unidentified persons fired three shots at Humboldt but missed." La Paz TV reports that the interior minister condemned the attack, saying: "The government will not allow violence within political parties under any circumstances." He said various law enforcement agencies will investigate to determine the details of the "alleged" attack. In response to a reporter's suggestion that the attack was "self-inflicted," the interior minister said: "There is no speculation in that regard."

Colombia

Prompted by a surge of guerrilla attacks, which included the deaths of 25 policemen in Putumayo, President Gaviria addressed the nation on 7 November. According to Santa Fe de Bogota Radio and TV, Gaviria expressed the national government's "condemnation of this criminal massacre." He added: "One cannot make peace with those who have abandoned revolutionary ideals for profitable bank accounts stemming from kidnapping, drug trafficking, extortion, and murder." Gaviria concluded by calling on all Colombians to participate within their capabilities in "this collective effort to eradicate the violence."

NOTIMEX reports that hours after President Gaviria announced that his government would take "emergency measures to severely confront the guerillas," the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board, CNGSB, "commandos" attacked "over 30 banks in different capitals around the country."

In view of the situation, the president summoned an "extraordinary security session" in which mechanisms "will be adopted" to counteract the CNGSB actions, reports NOTIMEX. Santa fe de Bogota Radio adds that on 8 November, the national government declared "a state of internal disturbance." Through this declaration, the "government plans to offer rewards for the capture of the main guerrilla" leaders. The declaration involves a number of measures the government plants to implement to help fight terrorism, including increasing the number of troops in the Armed Forces.

Cuba

Official Says Petroleum Production Could Increase

PA0711045192 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0419 GMT 7 Nov 92

[Text] Havana, 6 Nov (NOTIMEX)—Carlos Lage, secretary of the Council of Ministers, on 6 November, said Cuba has great possibilities to increase petroleum production in the upcoming years and admitted several foreign companies are conducting explorations.

Lage, who is also a member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba, the top power body of that political organization, refused to reveal the names of the foreign companies that are on the island.

"I abstain from revealing their names because they could suffer U.S. pressure," Lage said. He added the country has possibilities to increase its production because "it is a government priority."

Lage, who is known as the "manager of the crisis" and is the main person in charge of restructuring the country's local and foreign markets, appeared on the evening of 6 November in the "Today" television program aired for over an hour on the two national channels of the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television.

The official said the island will survive this year with the equivalent of 25 percent of 1990 exports and confirmed that trade with former socialist countries of Eastern Europe dropped to 7 percent of total imports. He denied the government of President Fidel Castro had made a mistake in policy by depending more than 80 percent on the market of the former Soviet Union.

"That was the last alternative the United States left the revolution," he noted, adding that after 30 years of dependence on the former Soviet Union, the island needs to completely restructure its foreign market and see new buyers for Cuban products.

"Cuba is currently facing an international market under conditions which are not normal; it is facing a blocked market at a time when U.S. hegemony has gained more strength and the embargo on the island has been tightened," he stated.

He made an analysis of the decline in imports since the disappearance of Eastern Europe countries and the disintegration of the Soviet Union, and gave figures for the products Cuba has stopped importing this year.

Lage indicated that despite the economic crisis the country is going through, "there is order and stability in Cuba."

Further on Alarcon's Visit to Venezuela, Talks

Notes Torricelli Bill, Clinton Win

FL0611202392 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Telephone interview with Cuban Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon in Caracas, Venezuela by Orlando Contreras; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Contreras] Minister, the Venezuelan Government, through Foreign Minister Fernando Ochoa, has publicly said it rejects the Torricelli Law. I would imagine that you discussed this matter.

[Alarcon] Of course, the issue has been constantly brought up, and reporters have been constantly asking about it. The truth is that just yesterday, when we were together, Foreign Minister Ochoa reiterated the Venezuelan Government's rejection of the so-called Torricelli Law to the media. As a matter of fact, I must also tell you that President Carlos Andres Perez has also done so (?clearly) and publicly.

[Contreras] On the same type of subject, I would imagine that the Venezuelan media has been interested in what Cuba's position is regarding candidate William Clinton's victory in the elections for President of the United States.

[Alarcon] I believe we will have to wait. Clinton is not yet president. Clinton himself has said on more than one occasion that Bush remains at the head of the government. With Bush's fall, there was one more president who has tried unsuccessfully to destroy the Cuban revolution. Cuba has the ability and will to continue to resist however many presidents may pass through the White House. All during his campaign, Clinton made statements against our country, as we all know. We will have to see to what extent that was part of the U.S. election circus and to what extent he will act on this and other issues once he assumes his new role. For our part, I believe that we must wait and watch attentively to see how the United States behaves. We must wait with the same calm and readiness we have maintained for more than 30 years.

Signs Cooperation Agreements

FL0711143692 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Nov 92

[Text] In Caracas, the governments of Cuba and Venezuela, through their Foreign Ministers Ricardo Alarcon and Fernando Ochoa, signed agreements of technical, cultural, and consular cooperation aimed at strengthening bilateral ties of friendship.

Havana City Province Electoral Commission Formed

FL0611151792 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] In Las Tunas, Pedro Ross Leal, who is a member of the Politburo and secretary general of the Cuban Workers Federation [CTC], has called for everyone to ensure that the working class participates in the broadest and most aware manner in the electoral process that will be taking place soon in Cuba. Along with Alfredo Jordan, also a Politburo member and Las Tunas Province's first secretary, Ross presided over a plenum of the CTC's provincial committee during which he stressed the need to, in the upcoming elections, nominate and elect the very best people.

It is also reported that the provincial electoral commission for Havana City has been formed. It was formed during a solemn ceremony held in the Hall of Mirrors of the Museum of the Revolution. This commission is headed by Mirta Cardona, and has (Alexis Ilbertegra) as its vice president and Felix Sosa Sosa as its secretary, in addition to another 12 people, who will (?serve) on the commission as members.

This ceremony was headed by Carlos Amat, who is minister of justice and also president of the national commission; Melba Hernandez, a heroine of the attack on the Moncada Barracks; Party leaders; and a group of workers, Committee for the Defense of the Revolution members; (?Cuban Women's Federation) members; and outstanding students.

Also, just as planned, the electoral commissions for the rest of the nation's provinces and the special municipality, Isle of Youth, were also formed on 5 November; and the formation of the electoral commissions in all the nation's municipalities has been announced for 6 November, as part of the first stage of the elections to the bodies of the People's Government.

The last commissions to be formed will be those at the level of the electoral districts. They are to be formed on 7 and 8 November throughout Cuba.

Station Commentary Explains Electoral Procedures

PA0611143692 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Nov 92

[Amalia Sanmartino commentary]

[Text] This commentary will allow you to increase your knowledge and understanding of the Cuban electoral process and the steps being taken to improve its democracy.

The National Assembly of the People's Government, which is the Cuban Parliament, has just approved the new electoral law, which stipulates that all citizens who were born in the country and are over 16 years of age will be able to elect their candidates to parliament in a process of direct and secret voting.

The process will start at the grassroots level as elections will be held in neighborhood districts and will continue in municipal assemblies, provincial assemblies, and finally, in the top national legislative body.

The candidates for municipal assemblies will be elected at neighborhood assemblies in the electoral districts. The people elected at this level will later approve the list of candidates to the provincial assemblies and the parliament. The so-called candidacy commissions will also start to work during the latter two events. The commissions, together with the municipal delegates, will study the lists of deputies. The candidacy commissions, which are formed by personnel from institutions, political and mass organizations, and work cadres, will be in touch with the people prior to the elections to avoid favoritism and excessive individualism.

The changes in the Cuban electoral law take place at an especially difficult time for the revolution and are an outright challenge for the Cuban people. The direct and secret vote process requires the people's confidence and will benefit all the country's representative institutions. To call people to such an ample electoral process when the economic blockade against Cuba continues and has worsened, and when the enemy had hardened its position, will turn the elections into a true plebiscite.

Under such conditions, the Cuban people have started to ready themselves for the elections. The process will be carried out without propaganda campaigns, dabbling in politics or fraud, and especially without excessive and traumatic expense. When you consider that the U.S. electoral campaign cost more than $173 million, it is very encouraging to know that the Cuban electoral process will not demand its citizens to spend such a large amount and that its electoral process will be much cleaner, representative, and democratic. There will be no partisan politics in the Cuban elections because the governing Communist Party is not an electoral vehicle. It represents the masses and promotes agreement by convincing and influencing people with authentic motivation and by example.

For these reasons and many more, the Cuban electoral process, which is geared to improve the national democratic process, constitutes a challenge and will be confronted, not only by a group of members or followers of a set political party, but by all the Cuban people.

R. Castro Urges Fight for Cuba's 'Very Existence'

FL0711025292 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Nov 92

[Text] Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the Cuban Communist Party, addressed the ceremony marking the 30th anniversary of military counterintelligence. The ceremony was held at the advanced academy of this part of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR],

which bears the name of Commander Arides Estevez, an internationalist combatant killed in Angola. The ceremony was also attended by several Politburo members and members of the military council made up of top FAR chiefs, as well as top chiefs of the Interior Ministry, headed by Army Corps General Abelardo Colombe Ibarra.

Many military counterintelligence chiefs and officers were given promotions and decorations.

FAR Minister Raul Castro stressed that military counterintelligence work over the past 30 years has effectively prevented, monitored, and combatted enemy activity:

[Begin Raul Castro recording] The origins of our state security bodies in the nascent Rebel Army, their basic structures, and their initial tasks—to gather information about the enemy to support our guerrilla operations in the mountains and the plains—are fresh in our memories. [end recording]

As for the situation Cuba faces in a unipolar world in which the United States tries to set itself up as the world's policeman and increases its hostility against the socialist revolution, Raul stated:

[Begin Castro recording] Today's challenge demands the maximum effort and efficiency of every leader, every cadre, every party member, every revolutionary. We are proud of the people's formidable reaction in light of the sacrifices imposed upon them by the special period and their incredible inventiveness. We are proud of what we have achieved up to now in such difficult circumstances. However, we cannot say that we are completely satisfied since the situation demands even more. It is most demanding, and not all revolutionaries are giving their all yet.

However, the circumstances demand even greater achievements, especially in the decisive tasks of the special period. We must multiply our efforts and efficiency. Comrades, the work of the revolution, national independence, and the nation's very existence are at stake. Despite the implacable hostility of the empire—drunken with its recent successes in Eastern Europe and the Persian Gulf, triumphalist and bereft of any decency or the least respect for international law—despite all the defections that have taken place in the world, despite all the pessimistic predictions, the Cuban revolution is steadfast, present, unshakeable! Don't you agree with me? [applause]

Cuba is not yielding one iota of its sovereignty and is willing to defend its national independence to the last breath, as Cespedes, Agramonte, Maceo, Gomez, and Marti showed us by their examples. [end recording]

Fidel Attends International Fair Award Ceremony

FL0711020692 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Nov 92

[Text] At this time, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, the president of the Councils of State and Ministers, is attending the awards presentation ceremony of the 10th Havana International Fair, which has been taking place in Havana since 1 November. Cuba and Spain are the countries that have received the most gold medals and recognition certificates for the quality and design of the products they presented.

The fair's organizing committee has awarded recognition certificates to the various Spanish companies and firms which provided solidarity support to the Cuban pavillion at Expo '92 in Seville. The committee has stressed that the Spanish participation in all 10 of these fairs. The Chamber of Commerce also recognized the work by a group of Cuban import and export enterprises that have actively participated in all the previous fairs.

The signing of our country's most important trade contract for exports to date at this fair also originated at the Cuban pavillion. It was signed between Cuba Industria and Conrado Benitez of Cuba and the Argentine company (Pompas del Plata), which under this contract will buy electric and telephone cables worth $500,000 in Cuba.

The Grafitel stand was the site today of the launching of a unique campaign against AIDS. This company will print the sweatshirts that will symbolize youth activities within the context of a donation from the United Nations and the WHO as part of a worldwide campaign against AIDS. Mario Escalona, of the Union of Young Communists [UJC] national bureau, which with the Public Health Ministry, is a co-sponsor of the campaign in Cuba, said that Grafitel was the best partner and a good friend of the UJC, and announced that these sweatshirts and other similar ones will soon be offered as prizes in contests at fairs and other activities aimed at publicizing the evils of this scourge which is being combatted today throughout the world.

After Spain, which is the country with the most participants at this fair, is Canada, an important trade partner for Cuba. During this period, Canada and Cuba have signed letters of intent for joint business deals in various sectors of the metalworking industry and for tourism infrastructure supplies.

Comments on Growing Enterprises

FL0711174492 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1255 GMT 7 Nov 92

[Text] During his closing remarks at the conclusion of the awards ceremony of the 10th Havana International Fair, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro said: We are learning to become more efficient everyday.

[Begin Castro recording] I believe that the contact with the many enterprises that are represented here will help us become more efficient. We did not know anything about holding fairs. We have learned. We have learned with you. You can see that the number of meters that Cuban enterprises occupy is greater every time. If they continue to grow that way, the ExpoCuba will not be

large enough to hold the fair. If Cuban enterprises continue growing and taking up more space every time.... [pauses] We have learned this in the last 10 years. A lot of the experience that has been accumulated by you during this time has been in the search for efficiency, quality, and competitiveness, which is very useful for our country. We must also thank all of you for this. [end recording]

The 10th Havana International Fair has acquired universal dimensions. More than 800 firms from 33 countries from four continents are represented in ExpoCuba. Last night, 62 products that were presented at the fair were awarded with gold medals and diplomas of quality. The Havana International Fair is the most important trade event organized in Cuba every year.

Closes Award Ceremony

FL0811234092 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 Nov 92

[Passages within quotation marks are recorded statements by Cuban President Fidel Castro]

[Text] The award ceremony of the 10th Havana International Fair concluded yesterday with remarks by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro.

"We appreciate in a special way, your presence on this 10th anniversary, precisely for the reasons that [name indistinct] explained, because of the times we are currently living through. I am not going to mix this with politics; however, I would also like to thank you because you have expressed your points of view on specific measures related to the embargo against our country. It seems something antediluvian, and no one knows when the deluge occurred. However, all these measures aimed at limiting our country's trade, in an attempt to make us give in through hunger, seem in these times anachronistic. It is really absurd, in addition to being unfair, and—to use a refined word—criminal. What the world needs, precisely, is to eat, and to have trade expand and develop. That is in everyone's interest."

In his closing remarks at the award ceremony of the 10th Havana International Fair, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro spent a moment reflecting upon the current problems of the U.S. economy and their repercussion on that of the rest of the world.

"I really think the problems of the U.S. economy are not easy, not problems that can be easily solved, and this does not help the rest of the world emerge from the recession. (?And in that light,) the embargo measures are even more ridiculous—measures which, furthermore, seek to export a country's sovereignty.... [pauses] a country's laws at the cost of other countries' sovereignty. Every country wants to administer its own economy, and no country is willing to allow anybody to tell it with whom it may or may not trade. That is a country's sovereign right. Where boats should go, and which ships may and may not go there!

"Just where might this take us? One day they apply it to Cuba, and some other day they might apply it to any other countries, (?on the basis of) a particular administration's taste. Someday they might apply it to an entire region."

Further on, Fidel said that this kind of economic reprisal being made by the U.S. administration is related to the philosophy of the economic embargo.

"That is why at present, after that notorious Torricelli Law.... [pauses] but well, the law has been made public but you cannot imagine the things they do even without laws. You cannot imagine the pressures that are brought to bear in order to affect Cuba's trade with other countries! We know about it. We have a right to know about it.

"In that law.... [pauses] because we resisted, since we have been capable of resisting that law.... [pauses] [word or words indistinct] that makes some people furious and leads them to take even further measures, allowing themselves to be dragged along by a real [word indistinct] and by a veritable waterfall of hatred against the dignified country and people that resists. That is why we intend to continue resisting. Perhaps we will one day have to thank these difficult times, because we are certainly learning to be more efficient."

The 10th Havana International Fair took on universal dimensions this year. Present at ExpoCuba are over 800 firms from 33 countries from 4 continents. At the awards ceremony held yesterday, 62 products represented at this commercial event were awarded the gold medal and the diploma of quality. This event is the most important commercial event held annually in Cuba.

Panama's Endara Stand on Bush, Referendum Viewed

PA0711174692 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Nov 92

["Our America" commentary by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] Panamanian President Guillermo Endara is among those who have bemoaned the humiliating electoral defeat of U.S. President George Bush, whom he calls his friend. Endara does not forget the special circumstances that permitted his rise to power. The U.S. invasion of Panama ordered by Bush made the swearing in of the Panamanian president possible in December 1989, on a base of the invading country.

Since that date, the Panamanian Government has tried to adapt the country's situation to the requirements of the White House and the Southern Command, which maintains 10,000 U.S. soldiers in the isthmian country. This is confirmed by the beginning of ostentatious U.S. military maneuvers in Penonome, capital of the central Cocle Province, and the holding of a referendum on 15 November to approve constitutional reforms, which could extend the U.S. military presence.

The military exercises will last until 15 November. Air and land units will take part in the military exercises as part of simulated combat, which most Panamanians must dislike. As is known, a large part of the population has expressed its disagreement with the uncontrollable presence of U.S. troops in the country, in which they move freely. Many Panamanians are doubtful of U.S. compliance with the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, which establish the return of the waterway in 1999. Also in that year, U.S. troops will have to leave Panama.

The recent reforms passed by the Panamanian Legislative Assembly—which would have to be approved by the majority of the population in order to become law—lead to the ban of a national army, thereby leaving a loophole of which Washington could take an advantage. Indeed, if the constitutional reforms promoted by the Endara government were approved on 15 November, the Southern Command could argue that unsafe conditions exist for the canal's operation. This will permit the Southern Command to perpetuate its presence in the country.

Despite the enormous publicity campaign favoring the yes vote in the plebiscite, private polls indicate the population is opposed to the changes because they do not prevent foreign forces from remaining in Panama. Perhaps the U.S. war simulations in the central part of the country will cause vast groups of the people to further reject the U.S. presence, increasing the no vote in the upcoming referendum.

If the referendum vote is negative, Endara will surely be the first to regret it, as he is now the forced departure of Bush from the White House.

Commentary on U.S.-Cuba Friendship Cargo Donations

PA0811230192 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Nov 92

[Roberto Morejon commentary]

[Text] If a specific expression was needed to reflect the wish of large segments of the U.S. population that their country establisn civilized ties with Cuba, we will find it this weekend with the beginning of an operation known as U.S.-Cuba Friendship Cargo.

In the past few months the Pastors for Peace organized a motorcade that will collect donations for the Antillean island from residents of more than 110 U.S. cities. More than 200 drivers and 100 vehicles will start the motorcade in northern United States, while participating in conferences to discuss the reality of the Cuban situation.

In other words, besides the material value of the medicine, food, bicycles, and articles for schools and churches that will be collected, the solidarity motorcade will promote an interesting exchange of views on the current situation and future of the Cuban revolution.

It is expected that the motorcade will regroup in Laredo, Texas before leaving for Tampico, Mexico, where the donations will be loaded on a vessel headed for the Caribbean island. The cargo, which should arrive in a Cuban port in late November, is an example of unselfishness and serves to denounce the sick anti-Cuban policy maintained by eight U.S. presidents in the past three decades.

The U.S. rulers, however, have failed to avert a growing repudiation toward their redoubled hostility against the island. A poll conducted in late 1991, published by the U.S. Commission for Latin American relations, shows between 41 and 46 percent of the U.S. citizens polled support the resumption of economic ties with the neighboring island.

The organization of the U.S.-Cuba Friendship Cargo operation shows the failure of attempts to portray this island as a threat, because millions of U.S. citizens are calling for the adoption of realistic positions. This trend must not go unnoticed by the upcoming Democratic administration.

ATAC Seeks To Increase Efficiency in Next Harvest

FL0711153292 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Nov 92

[Text] During the final session of the 46th Congress of the Cuban Association of Sugar Technicians [ATAC], the 300 delegates, who represent more than 35,000 sugar specialists, reaffirmed their goal of obtaining high yields of sugar through increased levels of efficiency and by obtaining the highest possible amount of sugar cane in the next harvest.

Barbados

Further Reaction to Clinton Presidential Win

PM Congratulates Clinton

FL0511012792 Bridgetown CANA in English 2159 GMT 4 Nov 92

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Nov 4, CANA—Barbados Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford has sent congratulations to U.S. President-elect Bill Clinton on his victory in Tuesday's [3 November] elections. In a letter to the Arkansas governor, Sandiford said he was looking forward "to an early opportunity of meeting with (him) to discuss matters of mutual interest."

"Traditionally," Sandiford noted, "our two countries have enjoyed excellent relations at the bilateral level as hemispheric partners within the context of the Organisation of American States, and on a range of issues of mutual interest in the international arenas."

Sandiford expressed the hope that during Clinton's term in office, Barbados and United States would continue to work to further strengthen bilateral ties.

Opposition Leader Forde Reacts

FL0511120792 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 5 Nov 92

[Text] There has been mixed reaction to the victory of U.S. President-elect Bill Clinton in Barbados. Opposition leader Henry Forde feels that the new U.S. Administration will be spending more time on domestic problems and less on the Caribbean region's concerns, so he says, the governments of the Caribbean need to become more self-reliant. However, opposition politician (Richard Chandleham) feels that as soon as the American economy has been revitalized, it will contribute to the growth of the Caribbean economy.

Haiti

MDN Seeks 'Quiet Revolution', Hails Clinton Win

FL0611172592 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1200 GMT 6 Nov 92

["Report" on news conference by Mobilization for National Development leader Hubert de Ronceray by unidentified reporter in Port-au-Prince on 5 November; italicized passages in French—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Mobilization for National Development [MDN] leader Hubert de Ronceray says the party he is leading wants a quiet revolution to occur throughout the country. According to De Ronceray who was speaking at a news conference, Haiti cannot continue to live through illegality and unconstitutionality nor through the disintegration of the institutions. De Ronceray called for the mobilization of all those who have competence and talents—no matter—on social, political, and economic planes in a government of participation and a liberal style state of law so this quiet revolution can take place. De Ronceray, who hails Bill Clinton's victory in the U.S. presidential elections, wants the new U.S. Administration to confront what the Haitian people—who are the victims of a criminal embargo—are demanding. This is what De Ronceray said.

[De Ronceray] *The MDN advocates a quiet revolution through the mobilization of values, competence, and talents from all sociopolitical and economic horizons in a government of participation and a liberal style state of law. The MDN hails Democrat Bill Clinton's electoral victory to the presidency of the Unites States. The MDN wishes that the new U.S. Administration fully meet the expectations of the Third World, especially the Haitian people who are the victims of a criminal economic embargo and of the systematic violations of their rights as a sovereign nation.*

[Reporter] De Ronceray added that a new crossroad is taking shape in political life and that the MDN wants to approach it through all the problems in the change to the social system. The MDN reaffirms its willingness to completely reshape Haitian society and to build up a new national socioeconomic order which will respect our culture and will remain open to international cooperation.

[De Ronceray] *A new watershed is developming in political life. The MDN wants to approach it in the global problematic of a change in the social system. Faithful to its great ideological and doctrine, the MDN reaffirms its willingness to rethink the entire Haitian society, to build up a new national socioeconomic order concerned with cultural authenticity and open to international cooperation. The national reconstruction challenge is waiting for all of us. We must succeed.*

[Reporter] De Ronceray recalled that he wrote a letter to U.S. President George Bush to ask him to lift the embargo against Haiti. We remind you that the MDN is represented in the consensus government by one of its secretaries, Education Minister Max Carre.

Mayor-elect Accuses Salomon, Seeks Reinstatement

FL3010230092 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1200 GMT 30 Oct 92

[Excerpts] Evans Paul, the mayor who was elected in the 16 December 1991 elections, says the only solution to all the problems that are shaking the Port-au-Prince City Hall is his return as head of that administration. In a message he read on Radio Metropole yesterday afternoon, Paul accused Gerald Salomon, the present mayor of the capital, of having exceeded the mandate given him by Paul and of having betrayed the people by accepting the post of mayor while authorized only to comply with formalities as the head of city hall. Paul says he does not intend to argue with Salomon who, he thinks, seeks power.

He, however, points out that, during the eight months he spent at the head of the administration, the city hall was never in this state, employees were paid normally, and the refuse collection workers were working under good conditions; in addition, several projects to improve Port-au-Prince were planned. Those include a census in the capital, beginning in October 1991; the Hyppolite Market project, which would be almost completely rebuilt if the 30 September coup had not occurred; and the trash problem, which would have already been solved. He also denounced the government order on formation of the assemblies.

Paul, who presents himself as the mayor of everyone, the wealthy and the poor, civilians and the military, thinks the solution to the problems of the Port-au-Prince city hall is his resuming his post at the head of the administration. [passage omitted]

The Port-au-Prince mayor-elect, who says that the country has been in ruin since the beginning of the crisis, compares Haiti with a 5-gourde bill being pulled by each party. The solution is respect for the rules of the democratic game, according to Evans Paul, who believes that all those who won elections—from the Communal Section Administration Council [CASEC] officials to the ousted president—must be reinstated in their posts.

[Begin Paul recording] We believe that all elected representatives must return to their post; all CASEC's must return to their posts; all mayors must return to their posts; and President Aristide must return to his post so the country can be untangled and democracy restored. On that score, I am still faithful to the mandate the people entrusted to me on the basis of these democratic convictions. It is on this same basis that I am working continuously with all friends in the Confederation for Democratic Unity, National Front for Change and Democracy [FNCD], lavalas, Movement for the Organization of the Country, and especially with all the FNCD parliamentarians who remain faithful to these principles. [passage omitted]

Haiti is not on another planet. Democracy is the basis of the solution of our problems. Democracy means everyone's interests, interests of all individuals, interests of all sectors in society in the respect of the law. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Port-au-Prince Mayor-elect Evans does not say when he intends to return to the administration he led before 30 September 1991. However, to solve the capital's problems, he invites the three senators of the Western Department and the three Port-au-Prince deputies—not to mention all interested sectors—to a conference. However, before these steps can be productive, the mayor-elect says, the major crisis must be resolved; that is, the ousted president must resume his place at the head of the Haitian executive so democracy can return to Haiti.

We remind listeners that in several previous statements, the Port-au-Prince mayor said he would not return to the Port-au-Prince city hall until Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide is back in power. However, now the mayor apparently wants to return even though Father Aristide has not yet done so.

Bauduy Describes 'Hidden Side' of Anse-a-Pitre Arrest

FL0611012192 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1145 GMT 5 Nov 92

[Italicized passages in Creole]

[Text] Guy Bauduy, third parliamentarian for the Southeast Department, explained during a news conference on 4 November that his incarceration was not a simple incident, nor a misunderstanding. Guy Bauduy explained to journalists that his efforts to denounce repression and illegal arrests in the region would set the military against him. Resignac Ansy-Rose has the following report:

[Begin recording] [Ansy-Rose] Senator Guy Bauduy's news conference less than 48 hours after his arrest was an opportunity for him to denounce to the nation the terror being perpetrated in his department. My arrest is not that simple, said Sen. Bauduy, who wanted what he calls the hidden side of the affair to be known, pointing out that the military in the area hold a grudge against him for having defended the peasants, who have been victims of the military's arbitrary behavior. According to the independent senator, some military have reportedly been involved in all kinds of extortion in this out-of-the way corner of the country, abuse of power to which the population does not know how to react, for fear of being victims of reprisals.

[Bauduy] *Anse-a-Pitre is so out of the way that the people are afraid. They are living in terror. The child of a man was raped. He swallowed it. He could not say anything. He accepted that they blamed his twelve-year-old girl for it. They said it happened because she was vicious. He swallowed it. He did not lodge a complaint. Everyone knows about the cocaine business in the town. No one dares lodge a complaint.*

The justice of the peace dared to lodge a complaint to the Southeast public prosecutor when the prisoner was released; nothing was done. The commander of the subdistrict, Warrant Officer Valdius Pierre, is still the commander, to the extent that he can arrest a senator, the town mayor, the justice of the peace and make them spend a night in jail, despite their claims that what he is doing is illegal, that he has no right to do it. He does not care because, he says, he is an officer. People in the Haitian Armed Forces, such as this commander, are not in their proper places. There is a clean-up that the Armed Forces must have the courage to do.

[Ansy-Rose] The case was that Sen. Guy Bauduy, Anse-a-Pitre Mayor Patrick (Aubasson), the justice of the peace, five businessmen, and a few peasants spent a night standing up, huddled together in a cell in the Anse-a-Pitre barracks for having held a meeting without the military's authorization. Guy Bauduy, who denounced this arrest as a violation of Articles 114-2 and 115 of the Constitution, providing for parliamentary immunity, says that they were arrested while discussing the possibility of opening a chamber of commerce in the department, at the home of one of the businessmen in the area.

[Bauduy] *It was at the moment that we were about to sign this constituent act that the commander of the Anse-a-Pitre subdistrict, a warrant officer by the name of Valdius Pierre, showed up and said, Senator, two words. I went out to meet with the commander. I saw that he continued walking. I said, Commander, you said two words; here I am. Let us talk right now because I have some guests and we are discussing an issue. Then he said,*

let us go outside. We went outside. Once in the street, I saw that he continued to walk. I said, Commander, you said two words. Let us do it here because I cannot leave the people there waiting for me. He had a sergeant with him, carrying a gun with several holes in it, which I could not identify. The sergeant pointed the gun at me. He was carrying a pair of handcuffs. When I saw that, the commander told me to go to the barracks. I said to myself that I would not resist. I went to the barracks and entered. The commander returned to the house and arrested everyone who was there. He then left us in the waiting room and began talking and cursing, walking back and forth in front of the barracks. Finally, I tried to reason with him. I told him that he had no right to arrest a parliamentarian. He answered: you are a philosopher; you can say whatever you want. I myself am an officer.

[Ansy-Rose] Remember that Sen. Guy Bauduy and the other people arrested on Sunday night at Anse-a-Pitre were released the following day, after being transferred to the Thiote Barracks, by order of the commander of this district who, according to the senator, was surprised and presented his excuses with great difficulty. [end recording]

Jamaica

'Possible' Collaboration in Tourism With Cuba Noted

FL0611183392 Bridgetown CANA in English 1644 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Nov 6, CANA—Jamaica and Cuba, who first broached the issue in the 1970's, are again talking about possible collaboration in tourism, it has been officially announced here. Jamaica is reviewing a draft Cuban proposal for co-operation, the government's Jamaica Tourist Board (JTB) announced.

The board said the developments grew out of a four-day visit to Cuba last month by tourism minister, John Junor, at the invitation of the head of Cuba's National Tourism Institute (Intur), Rafael Sed Perez.

"Areas of co-operation between Jamaica and Cuba in the area of tourism were discussed....," the tourist board said.

Jamaica is looking at the possibility of improved air links between Cuba and Jamaica and co-operation in marketing, environmental protection, training, cultural exchanges, and a regional fund for tourism development and cultural exchanges.

During the Michael Manley government of the 1970's when Kingston and Havana fostered close relations, they discussed the prospect of increased collaboration in tourism, including joint destination marketing. Little, however, was achieved, in part because of deep ideological polarisation in Jamaica at the time. The prospects worsened when ex-Prime Minister Edward Seaga won elections in 1980 and soon after broke diplomatic relations with Havana.

However, the situation has changed within recent years. Jamaican John Issa's Superclubs group operates a hotel in Cuba and will shortly be bringing a second property on stream.

The atmosphere for co-operation between the two countries, only 90 miles apart, has also improved with Cuba's entry into the Caribbean Tourism Organisation (CTO).

Elections Suspended in Four Municipalities

PA0811233692 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2225 GMT 08 Nov 92

[Text] Oaxaca (Mexico), 8 Nov (EFE)—The Oaxaca State Electoral Institute suspended elections in four municipal on 8 November due to confrontations between governing Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) and Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD) members.

PRI and PRD members burned 10 ballot boxes in the Huautla Jimenez and Jalapa de Diaz municipalities and injured at least 12 people. A group of PRD members have blocked the road to the Jalapa de Diaz municipality to protest the suspension of the elections.

There were also confrontations in the Zanatepec and Ojitlan municipalities. Those resulted in more than eight injured people and forced the closure of election tables. The State Electoral Institute also suspended the elections in those municipalities.

A group of Tuxtepec municipality residents, who oppose PRI candidate Candido Ramos for the mayor's office, started a fight that resulted in three people injured by knives.

Oaxaca Governor Heladio Ramirez stated the elections for the 570 municipal presidents have caused "the feelings of state residents to overflow." The participation of citizens in the Oaxaca electoral process, which ends at 1800 (0000 GMT) on 8 November, has been practically nil and abstentionism has marked the elections.

The Tamaulipas state residents are electing a governor, 19 local deputies, and 143 mayors and the elections have developed peacefully. According to electoral authorities, there have only been "small, unimportant incidents" in the state. The local press had asserted the elections would be the toughest and most conflictive in 35 years. The elections in Tamaulipas, however, have evolved in an orderly manner and there has been a constant flow of voters. The opposition has started to report anomalies, such as PRI members distributing promotional material and the election tables opening late.

The Puebla state residents are electing a governor, 22 local deputies, and 217 mayors. The opposition parties have charged the same irregularities reported in Tamaulipas, but the elections are developing peacefully.

Elections are also proceeding peacefully in Sinaloa state, where residents are electing a governor, 23 local deputies, and 18 mayors.

Salinas Sends Clinton Congratulatory Letter

PA0611151892 Mexico City Canal 13 Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Report by Roberto Garduno Espinoza]

[Text] President Carlos Salinas de Gortari sent U.S. President-elect William Clinton a letter congratulating him for his election as U.S. President. The Mexican president stated that in an uncertain world, opportunities exist to build more civilized bases for coexistence, development, and well-being to face the challenges of the 21st century.

The letter explains that it is within this context that the Mexican Government has started a vigorous economic and social program and a political modernization program for 85 million Mexicans to have a greater international presence.

President Salinas de Gortari underscored that an important change has taken place in Mexican-U.S. relations because common ground has been found through intense political dialogue to promote shared interests and respect of sovereignty.

The letter states Mexico has deliberately encouraged a new rapprochement with the U.S. Government to attend with greater efficiency, topics on the bilateral agenda, including trade, immigration, border cooperation, finance, protection of the environment, and fighting drug trafficking, among other topics.

The Mexican president gave assurances that the relationship between the two countries has advanced because much has been achieved, although new and old challenges that will require closer cooperation still exist. Salinas de Gortari particularly referred to the North American Free Trade Agreement because it is a tremendous way to promote our peoples' well-being and to consolidate the new positive climate in our relationship.

The Mexican president told Mr. William Clinton that both share the will to change and the wish to work for the benefit of both peoples, because there is a common commitment in favor of social policies that serve to compensate inequality and give health, education, and the environment the highest priority in activities promoting development.

President Salinas de Gortari reiterated the Mexican Government's desire for closer links of respect, good faith, and appreciation between the two countries, thus taking advantage of opportunities for mutual benefit with a greater hope for the future.

Notes Clinton Support of NAFTA

PA0611152192 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Nov (NOTIMEX)—Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari stated the night of 5 November that his meeting with new U.S. President William Clinton will mark the end of the presidential transition process in the United States.

The U.S. president-elect reiterated in a telephone call to Salinas de Gortari his support of the Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and said he is ready to work to conclude its total implementation.

In an interview granted to a private Mexican television station, Salinas de Gortari explained that in the 5 November telephone call, the first to a head of state, Clinton stressed the importance of the relations between the two countries.

Salinas said the negotiations between the governments on the NAFTA have concluded and the document will be ready for signature later this year. He noted the importance of the document that was signed last October in Texas, in the United States.

The same group that negotiated the NAFTA, headed by Mexican Commerce and Industrial Development Secretary Jaime Serra Puche, will continue to maintain contacts with the team of the U.S. president-elect, he said.

He added that they had already contacted Clinton previously, as normally occurs, to maintain contact and knowledge of the scope of the negotiations and that both chiefs of state will continue to engage in dialogues with their teams.

President Salinas de Gortari said the NAFTA is a good idea and will be beneficial for Mexico. He noted that it is only one of the bilateral topics of an occasionally complicated, complex, and difficult relationship, "but we want to be positive and cordial aboput it."

The Mexican president said there are reasons to harbor hope and confidence, without ignoring the fact there are problems awaiting solutions. He said that "when Mexicans unite, there is nothing that can defeat us."

NAFTA Negotiator on Sovereignty Over Oil

PA0811201392 Mexico City XHTV Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 7 Nov 92

[Text] Herminio Blanco, chief of the Mexican negotiators for the trilateral North American Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA], has said the Mexican Government has maintained its sovereignty over Mexico's oil. He said this at a Mexican Senate session.

Mexico's energy sector has remained in Mexican hands, said Mr. Blanco to the country's senators.

[Begin Blanco recording] These were difficult and intense negotiations, but Mexico's constitutional mandates and sovereignty over the country's oil were safeguarded. [end recording]

The energy and petrochemical issues were discussed during the Senate's 13th public session on NAFTA. Mr. Blanco spoke about the five principles in favor of Mexico's energy sovereignty that the treaty will respect.

1. The Mexican state has exclusive rights over the exploration, exploitation, and refining of energy and basic petrochemical products.

2. Mexico will not accept shared-risk service contracts.

3. Mexico will not give Canada or the United States any supply security or guarantee.

4. Foreign-owned gasoline stations will not be permitted in Mexico.

5. There will not be free trade on exclusively oil-industry materials.

Herminio Blanco told the senators that this is the first international treaty that includes clear and definite rules for the protection of the environment.

U.S. Sanctions on Fishing Practices Condemned

PA0611233692 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0920 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] Mexico, 6 Nov (NOTIMEX)—Mexican deputies denounced that the U.S. attempt to apply unilateral sanctions against Mexico's fishing practices is aimed at imposing the extraterritorial application of U.S. laws on the rest of the world.

All party members represented in the Mexican Chamber of Deputies agreed to condemn the possible extension of the tuna embargo by virtue of the "Law To Protect the Dolphins 1992," which was promulgated by the U.S. Senate on 8 October.

They added that even though this law was presented to lift the sanctions against Mexico, for allegedly capturing dolphins when fishing tuna, it establishes as a prior condition the suspension of the use of large fishing nets for five years beginning in 1994.

Israel Gonzalez, president of the Fishing Commission of the Chamber of Deputies, added, however, that this law becomes null if two countries with over 25 tuna fishing boats reject it. This condition was met when Venezuela and Mexico presented their objections.

If approved, this decree would have paralyzed Latin American fishing vessels, particularly Mexico's, Gonzalez stated.

Also, legislators rejected the charge that Mexican boats do not exercise enough vigilance to keep the number of sacrificed dolphins to a minimum when fishing tuna.

They recalled that the United States, as well as Mexico, Venezuela, and other nations signed the "La Jolla agreement", by which they committed themselves to take steps to increase the protection of sea mammals and tuna.

El Salvador

FMLN Party Registration Request Rejected

PA0611163592 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Report by Alfredo Villarreal]

[Text] The Supreme Electoral Tribunal [TSE] has rejected the application of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] for legalization as a political party. The FMLN feels this is a maneuver by the government and the rightist groups that oppose its legalization.

FMLN Commander Marcos Jimenez has said the FMLN is facing new problems in its efforts to become a political party. A TSE resolution says the FMLN cannot be registered because of the term collective bodies used in the FMLN statutes. According to the TSE, this term violates the Electoral Law, because parties may be registered only by individuals, not groups, and the FMLN represents five organizations. The commander, who is in charge of the FMLN legalization process, says this is just another government ploy.

[Begin Jimenez recording] This is a new snag in the peace process. The Nationalist Republic Alliance and the government have taken another step backward in preventing the registration of the FMLN Party. As we said, this is just legal maneuvering, because as we know, the TSE is currently under pressure. [end recording]

The FMLN was established by 150 people in 1981, when it began its belligerent activities. This fact does not satisfy the TSE. Jimenez says the rightists are trying to gain time through this new maneuver.

[Begin Jimenez recording] The purpose of this is to gain time. In other words, this is fully in line with the statements made by the Pro-Peace and Work Crusade and by [Deputy Defense Minister] General Zepeda. Thus, the purpose is to gain time, and prevent the party's registration. [end recording]

Commander Jimenez said the error pointed out by the TSE will be corrected by means of an urgent assembly of the founding members. By law, the party has 15 days to make the correction; otherwise, the party registration process will remain blocked.

In addition, it was learned that the new timetable presented by UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali calls for the FMLN registration to take place no later than 27 November.

Democratic Convergence on FMLN Registration Delay

PA0811193592 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1230 GMT 7 Nov 92

[Text] The left-wing Democratic Convergence [CD] party stated the Supreme Electoral Tribunal [TSE] has not rejected the registration of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] as a political party; instead, this is a preventive measure to assist the FMLN's registry as a political institution in a legal and appropriate way. Dr. Hector Silva expands this report:

[Begin Silva recording] Regarding the TSE, this is not a case of rejecting the FMLN; it is a preventive measure. I would say that this has political and formal reason. The political reason is what we all know through the media—there are two differing opinions on whether the FMLN can or cannot legally register as a political party while it remains armed. What we have said all along is that the important thing is that until the FMLN ends its demobilization process, it be allowed to do all the normal things political parties are allowed to do. All this can be done perfectly well as a political party that is in the process of being registered, with the guarantee, of course, that it be allowed to move on and that the FMLN's registration at the end of this process is not blocked. [end recording]

This was CD representative Dr. Hector Silva, giving his opinion on the FMLN registration process as a political party.

Government Denounces Leftist 'Rumor Campaign'

PA0811164092 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 7 Nov 92 pp 5, 23

[Text] According to Presidential Communications Secretary Ernesto Altschul "the ultra-left has initiated a rumor campaign about coup attempts in order to belittle the government as well as to create an internal crisis."

During a news conference that took place at the Presidential Palace on 6 November, Altschul stated that "it is ridiculous as well as preposterous" that at this time there is still talk about an Armed Forces promoted coup. The Armed Forces is determined to honor all agreements and its commanding officers have reiterated this.

Presidential Communications Secretary Altschul added: "From the moment there is talk about a coup attempt, this ceases to be truth because these types of movements generally take place under covert circumstances. It does not take place by announcing it through the mail or anything of the sort."

Versions related to the alleged coup attempt were made public overseas by leftist Eduardo Molina Olivares, member of the so-called "Ad Hoc Commission."

Politicians as well as Armed Forces members have also rejected the coup attempt version pointing out that "these reports are only part of his imagination."

Altschul said that Olivares' statements are "irresponsible, especially when he has been conferred a very delicate responsibility connected to El Salvador's everyday life."

He added that such disclosures "are in no way optimistic, not based on concrete facts, are baseless, and only serve to create uncertainty among the Salvadoran people."

In reply to questions made by some journalists, Altschul said the leftist campaign against the government is linked to maneuvers against Defense Vice Minister General Orlando Zepeda.

In addition, Mr. Altschul expressed his agreement with Gen. Zepeda's position with respect to defending himself if his name is included in a so called Ad Hoc Commission list. According to Mr. Altschul, it is his right, and rights are never lost.

A government official recalled that the last coup in El Salvador was carried out on 15 October 1979. It took place when a group of military officers and leftists civilians, instigated by U.S. President Carter's agents, proceeded to overthrow President Carlos Romero and established a junta that continued to govern by decree. Initially the junta was formed by several Revolutionary Democratic Front and Christian Democratic Party leaders. Among these party leaders we can mention civilians such as Guillermo Ungo, Roman Mayorga Quiroz, and Mario Andino, as well as military officers such as Colonels Jaime Abdul Gutierrez and Adolfo Arnoldo Majando.

Zepeda Criticizes Ad-Hoc Commission Report

PA0611142092 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] Deputy Defense Minister General Juan Orlando Zepeda described the Ad-Hoc Commission report on the behavior of military personnel during the years of conflict as an attack against the Armed Forces. The attack against more than 100 Army officers is an attack against the institution and this is not the way to seek reconciliation as the peace accords stipulate, Zepeda said. He reiterated that he does not know about the contents of the list the commission drafted to evaluate military personnel, as mandated by the agreements signed between the government and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front in Mexico. This list is confidential and its contents will only be known when President Cristiani carries out the administrative measures against officers listed for violating human rights.

UN Official Warns Government on Treaty Compliance

PA0811150892 San Salvador Radio Farabundo Marti Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] Igbar Riza, chief of the UN Observers for El Salvador [ONUSAL], has cautioned the government that it could violate the peace treaty by trying to incorporate Army personnel and units from other dissolved military forces into the National Civilian Police [PNC].

In a letter to Minister of the Presidency Oscar Santamaria, ONUSAL notes the concern of the United Nations over the selection process for appointments to PNC command posts.

Riza's concern coincides with that expressed by Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front leaders, who have said that the government has filled the police academy with people who do not meet the registration requirements established in the peace treaty signed in January.

The ONUSAL letter includes a list of the names of 19 former Army members who have been presented by the government as candidates for executive and higher level positions in the new security corps.

Riza recalled that in May, the UN Security Council asked the government to abstain from incorporating former members of the Treasury Police and National Guard, which were dissolved as a result of the peace treaties, into the police academy.

Riza regretted that the government is insisting on presenting military personnel from these two dissolved military units and from dissolved elite Army battalions as aspirants for posts in the police academy.

In the letter, Riza recalled that the Salvadoran Government is committed to delivering to UN observers the lists of the names of the personnel from dissolved infantry battalions. This has not been done so far. Riza requested an urgent meeting with the minister of the presidency to discuss the problems of the police academy.

Deputies Say UN Verification Unnecessary

PA0611160192 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 5 Nov 92

[Text] Deputies of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], the National Conciliation Party [PCN], and the Nationalist Republican Alliance [Arena] stated it is not necessary for the United Nations to apply specific verification measures to the peace accords, as the will of the two parties is the basis for such implementation. The peace process entered a new phase on 1 November, which constitutes the last phase before the 15 December deadline. The purpose of the visit of Marrack Goulding, UN under secretary general, and Alvaro de Soto, the special UN envoy for the peace negotiations, is to ensure

that the two parties adhere to the schedule and that this will be the last extension of the implementation process.

PDC and PCN deputies said total compliance will depend on the will of the parties, although some UN verification measures could be taken.

[Begin recording] [First unidentified deputy] The problem here is not one of methodology, but of goodwill. In this case we believe it is important for international solidarity to speak out specifically about the Salvadoran Government.

[Second unidentified deputy] Instead of worrying if the United Nations should exert more pressure, we should try, or ask the parties and the organizations created to verify and supervise the implementation to act with greater responsibility. [end recording]

Gloria Salguero, of Arena, stated the United Nations has specific methods to push the peace process forward.

[Begin Salguero recording] I believe the United Nations has its specific responsibilities and authority, as does the National Commission for the Consolidation of Peace, while the government and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front have their obligations. Hence, I believe there is no need for additional measures. [end recording]

The deputies added this must be the last deadline extension, in order to make way for a true phase of national conciliation.

Inter-Union Association Requests UN Verification

PA0611155892 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 5 Nov 92

[Report by Hilda Quijano]

[Text] On 4 November the Inter-Union Association asked the United Nations to apply special verification measures to ensure full compliance with the peace agreement. Through its Security Council, the association members spoke out in favor of the United Nations participating directly in the continuous verification of the peace agreement implementation process. According to the group's leaders, the present state of the pacification process calls for a more direct intervention on the part of the United Nations, as well as the group of friendly nations, to prevent any dangerous impasse of the sensitive points yet to be implemented.

[Begin Marco Tulio Lima, association leader, recording] This is why we recommend that the UN Security Council and the general secretary monitor the compliance of the peace agreement by sending people each week and by presenting timely evaluation reports to the Security Council and to the community. The community is also capable of struggling for the peace agreements. [end recording]

The representatives of the association reported and questioned the government's intentions of extending the implementation of the political commitment agreements concerning the military until mid-1993.

[Begin Lima recording] It is dangerous for President Cristiani to try to defer purging the Armed Forces until after the deadlines recommended and mandated by Butrus Butrus-Ghali. Who will force the Armed Forces, who have never complied with anything, to comply when there is no one strong enough to do so and when the strength of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front has vanished? [end recording]

According to Marco Tulio Lima, the government plans to execute the agreements on Armed Forces restructuring and reduction in August, which is not included in the UN implementation calendar proposal.

Guatemala

President Serrano Comments on Human Rights

PA0811181692 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Nov 92

[News conference by Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano with unidentified reporters; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Reporter] What do you think about the OAS Human Rights Commission acknowledging that the human rights situation has improved in Guatemala?

[Serrano] I feel happy about it, because to a certain extent it means that the work the government has carried out unceasingly for two years has been acknowledged. These have been two hard years. I am not going to deny that, but now we are beginning to see the fruits of our labor. Some people have urged me on by saying the world is beginning to acknowledge the work of the government. I sincerely do not see it that way. I believe the work carried out in Guatemala has not been justly acknowledged yet.

[Reporter] Has the government approved this commission to visit the country's interior?

[Serrano] The Government has backed all the organizations that have wanted to visit the country.

[Reporter] Did you discuss the peace talks issue with the human rights commission?

[Serrano] Yes, of course. They clearly understand that the government has acknowledged the human rights document prepared by the mediator. This is not just one more document. It took nine months, 22 trips by the mediator, four or five private meetings with the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG], plus two public meetings, to prepare this document. The document represents an understanding between the parties.

The government accepted it approximately four months ago. The URNG is still looking for flaws in the document. The government cannot demonstrate more good will than it already has.

The government has already presented a general document to see if we can get this conflict over in four months. We asked the URNG to agree to let the United Nations prepare a document for the dismantling of the guerrilla fronts and for verification. We proposed to the URNG to meet with the government on alternate weeks until a peace agreement is secured.

As we told them, there are four or five balls bouncing now on the URNG's side. Negligence is on their side, never on ours. The government has demonstrated good will and openness.

[Reporter] The inter-American commission has denounced during this and the past administration that there have been continuous violations of human rights. The commission has been filing such charges for some time. Has it reported any specific cases to you, anything in particular?

[Serrano] No. I asked them for specific information and they told me that it was going to appear, eventually, in their report. We talked about the Communities of Resistance People, communities that have lived under a state of terror and threats imposed by the rebels. We discussed the Civil Self-Defense Patrols. We have the obligation to make sure that their members are there voluntarily. We agree with that. We know that membership cannot be obligatory. The Constitution does not allow that.

We also discussed the courts. The Executive Branch does not have any responsibility there; the Judicial Branch is responsible. We informed the commission of the support that the Executive Branch is giving the Judicial Branch. Right now we are giving it considerable amounts of money for the opening of courts throughout the country. We are cooperating with Rodriguez [not further identified] in an efficient way to improve the penal system, to provide more protection for the Guatemalan people. You know that the new criminal code has been approved so procedures may become increasingly trustworthy. This means that we are working adequately in the country, on the right path. Obviously, 30 years of confrontations cannot be erased in two years of government. [passage omitted]

Serrano Reaffirms Need For Permanent Peace Talks

PA0711134392 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0037 GMT 7 Nov 92

[Text] Guatemala City, 6 Nov (NOTIMEX)—Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano Elias reaffirmed on 6 November, his proposal to maintain permanent sessions in the peace negotiations with the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG.)

The methodology suggested by the president attempts to overcome a three-month delay in the talks between the government and the guerrillas to end the only internal armed conflict that prevails in Central America.

Serrano's proposal was also presented to the National Reconciliation Commission, which mediates in the negotiations, and the UN appointed observer.

The proposal, which was initially presented by the president on 30 June, entails meeting every two weeks until all the topics in the negotiation agenda have been broached and a definite peace agreement can be signed.

A communique issued on 6 November by the Guatemalan Presidency Public Relations Secretariat states that the proposal is being reiterated to put an end to the "suffering" that caused the war.

The communique charged the URNG of sporadic sabotage and terrorist activities which negatively affect the population.

The guerrillas "continues to kidnap and forcibly recruit people who are later reported as missing by their relatives," the communique says.

CIDH President Revokes URNG Letter

PA0711215792 Guatemala City SIGLO VENTIUNO in Spanish 5 Nov 92 p 3

[Text] Marco Tulio Bruni Celli, president of the Inter-American Human Rights Commission [CIDH] revoked a letter written by Dr. Jorge Seall-Sasiain, a lawyer in charge of Guatemalan affairs in the CIDH Executive Secretariat. The letter was sent to the armed guerrillas on 27 October.

This CIDH low-level officer sent the letter to the URNG [Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity] through Monsignor Rodolfo Quezada Toruno, president of the National Reconciliation Commission. The note officially informed the guerrillas that the delegation headed by Bruni Celli would be in Guatemala from 2 to 6 November.

In fact, Seall-Sasiain informed the guerrillas that the commission wished to visit on 5 November the Ixcan and Sierra Communities of Resistant People [CPR] to verify the country's human rights situation.

In the letter, Seall-Sasiain requests: "instruct your fighters who operate in that area to allow the following helicopters to fly into the area: 1. TG-NEW painted red; 2. TG-WEB painted brown and beige." He explains to the URNG why he sends the letter: "Both helicopters will carry CIDH members accompanied by Executive Secretariat lawyers, and Presidential Commission for the Coordination of Human Rights Affairs representatives and government organizations. The visits will take place the same day and will last 120 minutes at the most."

This letter caused deep annoyance because it implied the CIDH-OAS international observers treated the CPR as territories that had been "liberated" by the URNG, because the letter about the flights should have been addressed to the government.

National Defense Minister General Jose Domingo Garcia Samayoa and Foreign Minister Gonzalo Menendez Park reacted strongly, especially Garcia, who advised the CIDH members not to fly to the CPR because it is an armed conflict area.

On 3 November, Bruni Celli sent Foreign Minister Menendez an official letter, which was based on a conversation held the previous day and consultations with members of his delegation, canceling the letter sent by Jorge Seall-Sasiain.

The letter indicates, for example, the letter addressed to the URNG through Msgr. Rodolfo Quezada Toruno, "by a CIDH Executive Secretariat official, without the commission's knowledge, is hereby canceled because it does not represent the commission's point of view."

"The CIDH will not travel to the CPR. This is not due to any type of pressure; on the contrary, it was not part of the delegations' schedule," president Bruni Celli said.

He added that the decision not to travel to the CPR had been made before his arrival, thus the decision was not a reaction to the defense minister's warnings. "The government has the obligation to point out the dangers of visiting certain areas, however, it is also obliged to offer the required security to allow the commission to do its work," Bruni Celli said.

Nevertheless, it transpired that Jorge Seall-Sasiain, the lawyer in charge of Guatemalan affairs in the CIDH Executive Secretariat, was immediately returned to OAS headquarters in Washington due to the letter he sent.

Bruni Celli said that important discussions were held with Ramiro De Leon Carpio, ombudsman for human rights, Juan Jose Rodil Peralta, Supreme Court president, and Gen. Jose Garcia Samayoa, defense minister.

De Leon Carpio gave assurances on 4 November that in Guatemala, human rights are still violated, there is impunity, and there is no respect for life.

There is a tremendous lack of security due to the inefficiency of the security corps to protect citizens and there are still repressive groups that are out of control, De Leon said.

Garcia Samayoa himself said the CIDH representatives have the right to study human rights, thus the government is obliged to give them the security and facilities they need.

He said "we cannot deny them access to any place in the national territory as this is part of international legal agreements Guatemala has ratified, which must be respected."

Nicaragua

Chamorro Says EPS To 'Exist' During Her Term

PA0611131392 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2218 GMT 5 Nov 92

[Text] Managua, 5 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—On 5 November Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro rejected new local political pressures to eliminate the Sandinist People's Army (EPS), and she stressed that during her term "there will be an army."

The EPS "is part of my government and will continue to exist during my presidential term," stressed Chamorro, whose mandate ends in 1996.

After a six-hour meeting between President Chamorro and General Humberto Ortega, presidential spokesman Danilo Lacayo read a declaration in which the government confirmed no further reductions will take place in the military ranks and guaranteed respect for the Army's institutionalism.

The Nicaraguan president, in brief statements to the press, added that the "immediate task of the EPS is to professionalize." The EPS has been led by Gen. Ortega since 1979. Gen. Ortega is a former member of the opposition Sandinist National Liberation Front National Directorate.

In the wake of Chamorro's statements, political leaders of the government coalition, National Opposition Unity, announced new pressures to remove Gen. Humberto Ortega as the EPS commander.

Social Christian Deputy Humberto Castilla, who leads a so-called National Salvation Movement, declared there will be demonstrations staged next week in the central departments of Boaco and Chontales to demand Gen. Ortega's dismissal and the elimination of the EPS.

Ortega stated he will not leave his post, not even after 1997, as he must continue the task of the professionalization and modernization of the EPS.

Comments on Meeting With Army Leaders

PA0811034892 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Excerpts] President Violeta Chamorro on 5 November visited the Modelo Prison in Tipitapa and greeted the inmates. [passage omitted] Chamorro made a brief statement and answered a reporter's questions on a 4 November meeting with top Army leaders:

[Begin recording] [passage omitted] [Unidentified reporter] National Assembly President Alfredo Cesar said your government is among the big losers because Bill Clinton won the U.S. elections. What is your opinion?

[Chamorro] I have always said that when there is democracy and liberty everyone can speak freely. President-elect Clinton telephoned me to....[pauses] I do not know what for; to say hello, I imagine. I did not telephone him; he telephoned me. I will call him back....[pauses] I will wait for his call in my office. People may say whatever they wish. I think no government will forget Nicaragua. I do not want new governments to forget our fatherland either. I will try to strengthen friendship ties with everyone, as I have done until now.

[Reporter] Will the Army budget remain intact next year?

[Chamorro] The Army [words indistinct] all those issues will be discussed in due time. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] You met with some ministers and the Army leadership on 4 November. We did not learn much about it because we could not meet with you after that meeting had concluded. Could you tell us why [words indistinct] on that meeting?

[Chamorro] You certainly learned about it because Dr. Danilo Lacayo read you a communique. I could not meet with you because I had other duties at the time. I have never refused to meet with you. I met with General Humberto Ortega and several officers. I was accompanied by eight ministers. The Sandinist People's Army was represented by eight people. There was a total of 17 people at the meeting. We exchanged views. (?It was said) the Army must be subordinated to the executive branch [words indistinct] and the law will be amended at a latter date. All those things should be done as soon as possible.

[Reporter] When will these amendments be made, President?

[Chamorro] What?

[Reporter] When will these amendments be made?

[Chamorro] As soon as possible. We will make these changes as soon as possible, because we have many incorrect laws. We often make mistakes in our laws. Nobody in the world is perfect. We will amend them and ensure everything is in keeping with the Constitution.

[Reporter] Did you discuss when Gen. Ortega will be removed from his post?

[Chamorro] I did not discuss that topic because it will be included in the amendments that will be made as soon as possible.

[Reporter] Why is a helicopter overflying the capital from 2300 to 0500 every day?

[Chamorro] Those helicopters are probably checking drug trafficking [passage indistinct].

[Reporter] How do you assess the Army's presence in a democratic country?

[Chamorro] The Army is part of my government. The Army will exist during my presidential term. I say this and will not retract. Every country has an army. If someone else wants to change this, so be it, but I will not. The police are becoming more professional. I will do the same with the Army, because nobody is perfect [words indistinct].

[Reporter] Did you expect Clinton's victory to be so overwhelming?

[Chamorro] I cannot comment on that because I live in Nicaragua. I monitored the elections on television. I woke up and went to sleep and woke up and went to sleep and before I knew it Clinton had won. We saw a beautiful democracy at work. The outgoing president telephoned Clinton immediately to offer his help. Mr. Perot did the same thing. I would like to see this happen in Nicaragua henceforth; I wish to see the examples of other democratic countries emulated here. [end recording]

UNO To Pressure Chamorro To Dismiss H. Ortega

PA0811045192 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] In reply to statements by President Violeta Chamorro on the status of Army Chief Humberto Ortega, members of the political parties that make up the government coalition known as National Opposition Union [UNO] have announced they will apply new pressure on the chief executive.

The UNO leaders, who met on 5 November, said they will apply additional pressure to force President Chamorro to dismiss Humberto Ortega as Army chief. Social Christian Party Deputy Humberto Castilla, leader of the National Salvation Movement—which includes UNO political parties and the country's municipal mayors—on 5 November said repudiation demonstrations will be held in Managua and the departments next week.

Godoy Says President 'Yielded' to Military

PA0811001292 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2113 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Excerpt] Managua, 6 Nov (NOTIMEX)—Vice President Virgilio Godoy has warned, within the framework of a strong political campaign to abolish the Armed Forces, that President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro has "yielded to the military's demands."

Politicians of the civic movement regarded the remarks by President Chamorro in defense of the institutional nature of the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) as "ineptness" on the part of the executive in the face of the "imposition by the top brass."

Politicians, as well as the vice president, said they were "disappointed" with the way the president settled her

differences with General Humberto Ortega following Ortega's controversial public statement of 27 October.

Contrary to the expectations created in political circles of the ruling National Opposition Union, which is demanding Ortega's dismissal, Chamorro threw her support behind the Armed Forces by dismissing any possibility of abolishing the Army before her mandate ends in 1996. [passage omitted]

Commentary on U.S. Elections, Effect on Cuba

PA0611175792 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2200 GMT 5 Nov 92

[Jose Castillo Osejo commentary]

[Excerpts] As of January 1993, the White House will have a new occupant—a member of a party that for the past 12 years has been absent from the coveted dwelling.

Bill Clinton, a young Democrat, fiery and eager to do things right, has promised to look after Americans. In other words, the U.S. liberals will follow their usual path, turning away from international conflicts to concentrate on domestic issues.

There is no doubt that the American people, hard hit by economic events, a high unemployment rate, and other events that have taken place at home and abroad, made up their minds to install a fresh face in the oval office. In this case, the old saying A Bird in Hand Is Worth Two in the Bush simply did not work. It did not end as expected. [passage omitted]

Several factors added up to Mr. Bush's defeat. Ross Perot's populist attraction, although not strong enough to win, was decisive enough to take away votes from the conservative candidate. This in turn allowed Bill Clinton to obtain a favorable head start, which he would never relinquish.

Many international political experts believe that the Democrats' conduct toward other nations will vary. They contend this will be the case because a common characteristic of this party has been not to pay much attention to what has been fundamental to the Republicans: ensuring U.S. international prestige.

It is believed that the new administration will favor and strengthen leftist groups. This is because of past experience, where previous Democratic presidents clearly demonstrated their fondness for leftist ideology.

Many believe that one of the regimes that may be favored the most with Clinton's victory is the Castro regime. It is already being said that the economic embargo will be lifted and cordial relations will be established between both nations. If this were to lead to Cuba's democratization and liberalization, it would be an acceptable policy. But if it only leads to strengthening the dictator, it would be counterproductive and open to censure. The Cuban people have been living under adversity for too many years for them now to lose all hope of liberty.

The Torricelli Law is already an unsurmountable obstacle because it penalizes any country that carries out relations with the Castro government, without having to resort to an embargo. By the same token and if it is implemented, the Nicaraguan Government will have to be very careful.

With the current recession and unemployment in the United States, the new president will be forced to look inside. Clinton's government program was based on ending the economic crisis. How will Nicaragua fare in all of this? Will we have lost all opportunity to obtain assistance and to unblock the millions of dollars we need so much, millions of dollars we may have lost as a result of our government's mistaken direction? [passage omitted]

There is no doubt whatsoever that Mr. Bush was the only one hurt by Mr. Perot's decision to enter the presidential race. This was the case because populism is diametrically opposed to conservatism and Mr. Perot openly displayed this political inclination during his whole campaign. The 16 percent of the voters who favored Perot in the polls represented the thrust Mr. Bush needed at the end.

Mr. Bush, as the gentleman and statesman he really is, finally acknowledged his opponent's victory. He also placed himself at the new president's disposal to continue working in favor of this great country. He never said he would destabilize the Clinton administration. On the contrary, he offered his support and that of his fellow party members so the United States will continue as the world's premier nation. Mr. Bush demonstrated that he is a good citizen as well as a good loser. Let us now wait for what the new Democratic administration has to offer.

Panama

Further on Bomb at Attorney General Cruz's Office

M-20 Denies Involvement

PA0611181292 Panama City Circuito RPC Radio in Spanish 1754 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] A few minutes ago, in a telephone call to the RPC Television station, the 20 December Movement [M-20] denied any links with the 6 November attack on the Attorney General's Office. The M-20 explained that those responsible for the attack might be seeking to settle accounts with the government because of growing corruption or that it might be a self-inflicted attack by the government to distract the people's attention away from the defeat the government will suffer in the upcoming referendum.

Authorities Arrest Two

PA0611182392 Panama City Telemetro Television Network in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] Authorities have arrested two persons in connection with the attack against the Attorney General's Office. The medium-intensity explosive device that went off at the Attorney General's Office was designed to take human lives.

This attack against government offices could have caused the first fatalities on 6 November. Preliminary official reports indicate that the explosive device was placed at the entrance to the Attorney General's Office parking lot. Experts have described the bomb as a medium-intensity explosive that caused heavy damage to the Attorney General's Office building. Nearby buildings were also affected.

The incident, which took place at 0840, injured several civilians, among them the attorney general's bodyguards, and a police sergeant.

The attorney general chief bodyguard, who witnessed the attack, said:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Where were you at the time of the attack?

[Bodyguard] Well, the attorney general arrived.... [pauses] Approximately two minutes after the attorney general went up to his office, the explosive device went off. There were two security agents in the area. I was out here at the gate. I cannot explain further, as it all happened in a matter of seconds.

[Reporter] What are the names of those wounded?

[Bodyguard] I would rather not say, because their relatives could become concerned.

[Reporter] Did you see if the explosive device was thrown from a moving car or if it had been placed there?

[Bodyguard] The explosive specialists are checking that out. It appears the explosive device was planted. [end recording]

Endara Comments on Attack

PA0711002592 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2315 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] On 6 November, President Guillermo Endara Galimany asserted Panamanians will decidedly and bravely face the cowardly murderers who use terror to intimidate citizens. He added that people will not relinquish the freedom they recovered with great sacrifice and will be brave enough to stop the criminal actions.

President Endara is currently evaluating the events that occurred at the Attorney General's Office and hopes the force of law and justice will be imposed and will punish those who attack the country's democratic institutions.

Presidential Spokesman Comments

PA0611191592 Panama City Circuito RPC Radio in Spanish 1713 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] [Unidentified reporter] We are in touch with Rene Hernandez, spokesman for President Guillermo Endara, who will report on Endara's reaction to the bomb explosion at the Attorney General's Office. What did the president say about the attack?

[Hernandez] The president has been assessing the events. He expects the Panamanian people to confront, courageously and with determination, the cowardly assassins who try to terrorize the people. He has asked the security agencies to carry out investigations to identify and apprehend the perpetrators and the masterminds of these actions that have left several people wounded and damaged the building considerably.

[Reporter] Does the president think the attackers had a specific purpose in mind, considering the present political circumstances?

[Hernandez] The president has always said that, with these actions, the perpetrators seek to create unrest in the country and to make known here and abroad that in Panama these types of destabilizing actions have been occurring. He asked me to urge the media to be very careful lest they promote these actions, which is precisely what the perpetrators want.

[Reporter] What institutions are covered by the security measures ordered by the president?

[Hernandez] Security has doubled in various areas. The criminals took advantage of the calm and peace of the people, who commemorated their independence with patriotism and joy. The president has been asked by a number of institutions to increase security. The Institutional Protection Service, headed by Carlos Bares, is taking the appropriate measures to deal with the situation.

[Reporter] The attack occurred at a time when the creation of an antiterrorist unit is being discussed in Panama. Has President Endara taken specific steps to speed up the creation of this group?

[Hernandez] Much has been said about an announcement made by the president four months ago. He told journalists that a special group had been created to handle very special situations and that this group was spread throughout the various institutions, so what the media have reported is not new. It was mentioned by the president in a news conference. Now that the papers headlined the report, the people thought it was a new thing. The group, which was specially trained, can be convoked by the president. He has not because the attack was an isolated incident at the Attorney General's Office building. I think it does not merit being called by the president.

[Reporter] This fact, because of its importance and where it took place, plus the others that occurred in past weeks, would not at all affect the scheduled referendum?

[Hernandez] Well, I would say that such a decision would not be made by the president but by the electoral authorities. The schedule has not been changed. The perpetrators of these actions are trying to strike at places of local and international importance. Let us bear in mind that the enemies of the homeland try to discourage investment in an attempt to harm the government, thinking it is the government that manages public funds. However, they overlook the fact that, by discouraging investment, not only the government, but everyone else who lives in Panama, is affected.

Ford Condemns Attack

PA0811215392 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 8 Nov 92 p 1A

[Report by Vilma E. Figueroa B.]

[Text] Vice President Guillermo Ford stated the government will implement a plan to fight terrorism, because every democracy requires and should have a way to guarantee peace and security to the community.

The statements by Ford were made two days after an explosive device destroyed part of the installations of the Attorney General's Office, resulting in several injuries.

Ford said the government is in a state of alert. He explained he does not believe there are guerrillas in Panama. "That word is a bit strong. What we have is a group of unbalanced persons who want to protest by disrupting public order," Ford continued.

Concerning the possibility that drug organizations may be responsible for the explosion at the Attorney General's Office, Ford stated that the drug problem in Panama is not a secret.

"Unfortunately, there are drugs in Panama—just look at what happened on 5 November in Colon when a gang of common criminals murdered a youngster," he said.

According to the vice president, strict measures should be implemented to fight terrorism. He added the problem is that when the creation of a specialized group is announced, everyone begins to criticize it and say the group will trample on human rights, but that is not true.

"Either we have the elements to fight terrorism or we do not. I support the creation of elite groups that can fight crime with intelligence, prudence, and without abuses," Ford stressed.

Attorney General Explains Attack

PA0611173592 Panama City Telemetro Television Network in Spanish 1605 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Interview with Attorney General Rogelio Cruz by unidentified reporter at Cruz' home in Panama City—live]

[Text] [Reporter] Mr. Attorney General, in view of the act of violence that took place at your office, we would like to hear directly from you, who experienced this difficult situation. What happened and how do you feel, as the country's top prosecutor?

[Cruz] Well, it occurred five minutes after we arrived at the office. There was a loud explosion that caused physical damage and, I am told, 12 people were injured. Fortunately, I understand the injuries are not serious. I believe this is the first time an explosive device of this kind has been used for the purpose of causing casualties. It exploded exactly at the point where I always enter my office, five minutes after I had come in. That is all I can say.

[Reporter] Mr. Attorney General, we know that some information cannot be released to the public, but what about other information—for example—the type of device that was used, whether it was placed ahead of time, whether it was thrown, or whether it was remote controlled? What information do you have on the subject?

[Cruz] I would prefer not to speculate. I would like to let the National Police, the Judicial Technical Police [PTJ], and the assistant prosecutor conduct the investigation. I believe it is their duty to give the public a timely report on what happened.

[Reporter] Mr. Attorney General, can you confirm if anyone has been arrested?

[Cruz] I do not know. I understand that at least two people are under investigation, but I cannot confirm this. I believe the assistant prosecutor would be the best person to tell you this.

[Reporter] Mr. Attorney General, is this attack, which logically was designed either to intimidate or to hurt you, related in any way to drug trafficking or to statements made by government officials, for example Leo Gonzalez, who has accused you of so many things, or to the fact that you have been looking into major crimes by drug traffickers in this country?

[Cruz] The attack was undoubtedly carried out because of the post I hold and the investigations that are underway. Otherwise, I am certain this attack against me would not have taken place. I do not want to talk about suspects or rule out alternatives. I will leave that to the proper authorities which, as I said, are the PTJ and the assistant prosecutor's office, with the assistance of the National Police.

[Reporter] What will you do in the wake of this attack?

[Cruz] The same as always. I will continue to do my duty, no matter what economic, political, or other interests are at stake. We will continue to do our duty as long as God wills.

[Reporter] Of course, Mr. Attorney General. Thank you.

Deputy Minister, Police Chief Comment

PA0611184892 Panama City Telemetro Television Network in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Report by Julia Elena Alvear]

[Text] Amid the tension caused by the bomb attack, Deputy Government Minister Carlos Raul Trujillo called the bomb planters cowards.

[Begin Trujillo recording] As you well know, these people use the most cowardly methods—they hide at night and attack by surprise. It will not be easy, but investigations are under way to sooner or later catch those responsible—both the masterminds and the actual people who planted the bombs. [end recording]

National Police Chief Oswaldo Fernandez was also at the site and spoke about what happened:

[Begin recording] [Fernandez] Terrorist acts definitely lead nowhere—they cause chaos and unrest. Today's attack is the first time a terrorist act has caused injuries. This does not contribute to the country's social and economic advancement.

[Alvear] It has been said the bomb had been planted.

[Fernandez] First indications are that this is indeed the case, that it was planted and not hurled.

[Alvear] What is happening? It seems the various attacks we have had this year seem to be closing-in on the targets.

[Fernandez] The proper authorities are investigating. People have already been arrested and they are being questioned by the PTJ [Judicial Technical Police] and the police.

[Alvear] Are they members of the now defunct Panama Defense Forces or are they civilians?

[Fernandez] No. These were people who were in the area.

[Alvear] How do you see security matters for the referendum?

[Fernandez] We need to be optimistic.

[Alvear] Are we prepared for this sort of eventuality?

[Fernandez] We should be. [end recording]

The area surrounding the Attorney General's office has been cordoned off while PTJ officials and National Police explosive experts using trained dogs collect all the possible evidence to determine if the bomb was detonated by a timing mechanism and if C-4 explosive was used, as in previous attacks.

In addition, the Panama Fire Department began removing the broken glass from the various windows. Up to this moment the Security Council has not yet met, but apparently plan to do so in the next few hours. It is expected the PTJ laboratories will issue a report on the fragments and explosive substances used.

Legislators Comment on Attack

PA0611194492 Panama City Telemetro Television Network in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] There were diverse reactions by legislators of several parties in the Panamanian Legislative Assembly who expressed their views after the 6 November attack against the Attorney General's Office in which 11 persons were injured.

[Begin recording] [Guillermo Cochez, Christian Democratic Party legislator] We have reiterated that there are groups intent on sowing chaos and creating anarchy. They have said so. It may be true that it was the 20 December Movement [M-20]; the M-20 issued a communique this morning against the constitutional reforms. I definitely think that all of this is aimed at creating a negative climate for the reforms by those groups, who support a no vote, and want to create chaos and anarchy in our country.

[Unidentified reporter] Do you think this attack was directed against the attorney general?

[Cochez] The authorities are the ones who will have to determine that. I think this is part of a campaign to destabilize the country, by all those groups who promote a no vote and seek to create national destabilization, when there are scarcely 9 days left for the referendum to be held.

[Reporter] Do you think a new law should be drafted to punish those who dedicate themselves to this sort of thing, such as planting bombs and causing damage to third parties?

[Cochez] Definitely. Those who create terrorism and promote it should be punished as severely as those who engage in drug trafficking, because they create unbearably tense situations and we do not know when they will end.

[Alonso Fernandez, Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement legislator] I have said it and repeat that it is inconceivable. I think it is high time the justice authorities seek out all the persons who promote these actions, which are against human nature, and punish them as forcefully as possible. Things happen here and nothing is done about it. I think it is a very chaotic situation we are living in, and we should issue a resolution.

[Reporter] Do you think the Legislative Assembly should issue a statement and present an urgent draft bill to severely punish this sort of crime, since the 1994 elections are around the corner?

[Fernandez] The laws already exist. What happens is that the officials are nonexistent. That is where the sin lies with all our laws. The laws exist, but there are those officials who are not doing their duty.

[Reporter] Would you say this is linked to the upcoming referendum to be held soon in Panama?

[Fernandez] I cannot tell you one way or another, but possibly they are actions to destabilize the government. These are actions that have been occurring for some time. I think it is time for a strong hand to be used to counter these cases.

[Reporter] Would you place direct blame on the opposition?

[Fernandez] I cannot blame someone unless I am certain. I am not amazed at all at what happens here. There could be self-inflicted attacks, but I cannot tell you it is the opposition.

[Reporter] Then could it be a self-inflicted attack?

[Fernandez] I do not know, I do not think that would be feasible, although in life everything is possible.

[Legislator Balbina Herrera of the Democratic Revolutionary Party, PRD] We as a party and I, personally, repudiate the attack against the Attorney General's Office this morning. We think this does not aid the country's tranquillity at all. We want to note, however, that this is the result of a confrontation in the administration of justice. Attorney General Rogelio Cruz leveled strong charges against the customs director. The customs director has also leveled serious charges against the attorney general. There have been a series of charges, which I believe have very profound roots and which could lead to other situations in the country. We deplore all of this. The PRD wants there to be calm, because the people are going to state their position regarding the Panamanian situation at the polls on 15 November. We regret that this has happened and that subsequently it may be said that we of the PRD are behind it. [end recording]

Government Officials React

PA0711011992 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2319 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Report by Victor de la Hoz]

[Text] President Guillermo Endara on the afternoon of 6 November held an urgent meeting with the State Security Council at the Palace of the Herons to assess the attack against the Attorney General's Office. Although there is yet no official report on which group has claimed responsibility, State Security Council chief Menalco Solis said this subversive act could be attributed to drug trafficking:

[Begin recording] [Menalco Solis, executive secretary of the Council for Public Security and National Defense] I think that when the president said we should pay no attention to this, he actually meant this should not be reported with the prominence the perpetrators of this kind of actions seek. We must pay attention from the standpoint of investigating and following up on this and finding the culprits.

[De la Holz] Do you have any information about which group claimed responsibility for this attack?

[Solis] We understand a group claimed responsibility for it, but later retracted.

[De la Holz] Which group?

[Solis] Apparently the 20 December Movement, which disassociated itself from the attack.

[De la Holz] Are motives other than political ones ruled out?

[Solis] We are investigating all.... [pauses] We are assessing all possibilities. The meeting we will hold with the president now will seek to place on the table all the information revealed by the agencies.

[De la Holz] Could this be linked to drug trafficking?

[Solis] It could be, it could be. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Presidency Minister Julio Harris pointed out the government will strive to find the culprits of these kind of attacks:

[Begin Harris recording] I think the Panamanian people should also help us by providing information about this kind of action, because these attacks do not hurt a specific person but rather, the people in general. The people must be defended; they should benefit from justice through the arrest of these cruel and unjust people to ensure that Panama does not become another country where death reigns. [end recording]

Mayors Jose Rosas and Santiago Fundora, directors of the National Maritime Service and National Air Service, respectively, also condemned the terrorist actions and said they will be fully investigated.

Meanwhile, Judicial Technical Police Director Jaime Abad arrived in the Palace of the Herons under strict security measures and entered through the side door:

[Begin recording] [De la Holz] Can you say anything?

[Abad] I cannot because I have no authorization, ok? [end recording]

Attorney General Rogelio Cruz, showing clear signs of nervousness because of the attack on the morning of 6 November, arrived at the Palace of the Herons amid heavy security:

[Begin recording] [De la Holz] We would like to hear your opinion. Has there been any progress?

[Cruz] I can advance nothing yet.

[De la Cruz] Sir, it has been said that this attack was different from previous ones. What is your opinion?

[Cruz] I say the same thing.

[De la Cruz] To whom do you attribute this attack?

[Cruz] Excuse me, please.

[De la Cruz] Did you receive any threats in the past days?

[Cruz] No, I did not; excuse me. [end recording]

A source from the presidency stated that this meeting will yield the actions that the government will adopt to counter this wave of attacks.

Several Communiques Condemn Bombing

PA0711213892 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 7 Nov 92 p A3

[Communiques issued by the Attorney General's Office and Democratic Revolutionary Party and statements by First Vice President Ricardo Arias Calderon and the Civilist Renewal Party rejecting the detonation of an explosive device at the Attorney General's Office in Panama City on 6 November]

[Text]

Attorney General's Office

Communique: The attack committed on 6 November against the Attorney General's Office, which injured employees of the institution, is indicative of an extremely strong revolt against the institutional and democratic stability the country is making every effort to achieve.

The fact that this act was intended to take the very lives of Panamanian citizens, proves that its perpetrators are willing to increase and intensify the evil methods through which they achieve their terrorist goals.

One of those goals might well be the attempt to undermine the determination of the Attorney General's Office to carry out investigations in a number of areas, an effort in which it will not let up or rest until the individuals who are found guilty stand before the courts of justice.

It is to be expected that the pertinent investigations will lead to the solution of this case, as well as to the identification and punishment of its perpetrators and masterminds.

Nevertheless, the Attorney General's Office must warn that the responsibility for this criminal act may, to a significant extent, be attributed to individuals who have made improper use of their control of the mass media to manipulate public opinion, thereby exacerbating intense emotions that could lead to treacherous attacks such as the one perpetrated against the Attorney General's Office.

The Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD)

The Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD) issued the following communique:

The National Executive Committee of the PRD, upon learning about the attack on the Attorney General's Office on the morning of 6 November, feels it is its responsibility and duty to immediately and vigorously repudiate incidents such as these, which hinder peaceful coexistence in our country.

Many members of our party have suffered and are still suffering constant political persecution by members of the Attorney General's Office, but this is not and will never be reason enough to justify or explain acts such as the 6 November incident, which brings mourning and grief to Panamanian homes. In most cases, incidents like these affect innocent individuals.

The PRD is aware of the lack of impartial justice in the country, but does not consider that to be a reason to support violence. The PRD reiterates the pledge of democracy approved by its fourth congress, and its rejection of violent forms of protest, such as the incident at the Attorney General's Office.
[Signed] National Executive Committee
Ernesto Perez Balladares, secretary general

Statement by Dr. Ricardo Arias Calderon, first vice president of the Republic and president of the Christian Democratic Party

All Panamanians must condemn each and every act of terrorism. Terrorism is the worst form of cowardice and any citizen can become its victim at any time.

Our most urgent priority is the prompt identification of the perpetrators of this crime, as well as other crimes committed in the recent past, with the cooperation of anyone who may have pertinent information. If the perpetrators go unpunished, these acts of terrorism will be repeated and even intensified.

Life in our civilization and democracy and our hope for better days demand that any conflict among Panamanians be bridged through peaceful means, in accordance with the de jure state. It is necessary for everyone to contribute—rulers must show a willingness to correct mistakes, citizens must reject violent solutions, and no one should excuse violence. Thus, the promoters of violence will be isolated, exposed, and punished in an exemplary manner.
[Issued] Panama, 6 November 1992
[Signed] Ricardo Arias Calderon

The Civic Renewal Party

The Civic Renewal party (in formation), wishes to inform the public of its position on the regrettable incident that took place at the Office of the Attorney General on 6 November, which caused injuries to approximately 12 persons, most of whom are employees at that institution.

First of all, the Civic Renewal Party repudiates all acts of violence, as well as any effort to hinder the democratic process we are currently undergoing. We are opposed to injustice and the abuse of power and we feel that any expression of disagreement should be kept within the boundaries of respect for other people's rights, respect for ideological pluralism, and especially respect for human life.

Terrorism is an irresponsible form of protest because it distances us from solutions and intensifies our pain, mourning, hunger, and poverty. Therefore, we are strongly opposed to terrorism and we encourage the general public to adopt this feeling of repudiation toward the individuals who perpetrated this regrettable incident.

We reiterate our pledge to achieve the highest civic ideals and we urge all Panamanians to put aside hatred, differences, and personal or party interests in honor of a national concerted effort that will allow us to establish a Pact of National Solidarity.

Finally, we urge all Panamanians to work together to bring about effective and impartial justice and a national program that will respond to the needs of the poorest sectors.
[Signed] Manuel G. Burgos V., communications secretary

Gonzalez Says Authorities Blocking Cruz Case

PA0811153692 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 8 Nov 92 p 1A

[Article by Hermes Sucre Serrano]

[Text] Leo Gonzalez, president of the Legislative Assembly Drug Affairs Commission, has said that when he assumed the duties of commission president, he had reports on illegal drug dealings, but he never thought that "there were so many people involved."

Gonzalez, who filed suit with three attorneys against Attorney General Rogelio Cruz, stated that the problem has worsened, because there is no confidence in the authorities.

"The heads of drug organizations walk in through one door and leave through another," the Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement legislator affirmed.

The legislator endorsed a cleansing of the Judiciary Branch, then beginning the investigations in order to eliminate government corruption.

"There is a lot of money at stake, so it is difficult to eliminate the problem of illegal drug dealings in Panama," Gonzalez explained.

Gonzalez challenged Attorney General Rogelio Cruz to arrest former Prosecutor Carlos Herrera Moran, because there is enough evidence against the jurist in a case of bribery for $9,000 against Stephen de Castro, one of the accused in the murder of Japanese executive Takashi Ota.

The legislator revealed that he will soon release overwhelming evidence that warrants the arrest of Herrera Moran.

Leo Gonzalez expressed that the Attorney General's Office continues to be a focal point of corruption and as long as Rogelio Cruz remains in his post, it will be very difficult to obtain evidence against him.

"I have had to take an extra effort to obtain the information that I have from the prosecutors, because they did not want to release it as they were afraid," Gonzalez said.

He claimed that the Movement of Unionized Lawyers (MAG) is defending Attorney General Cruz, because they are involved in the freeing of approximately $38 million [in drug accounts].

"I think that there is no interest to continue investigating this case, because there are many people involved in the illegally freeing funds," he explained.

The legislator concluded that the authorities are placing too many obstacles to block the investigations.

Commentary Views Effects of Clinton Victory

PA0611224692 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 6 Nov 92 p 5-A

[Commentary by James Aparicio]

[Text] The democrats' comming to power in the United States, through the election of Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton, has prompted the world to think about the future.

In Panama, President Guillermo Endara's government, whose main support came from President George Bush who has been defeated, is hoping that the close relationship it had with the republicans can be maintained with the democrats.

However, with Clinton's victory, Endara has lost.

The U.S. debt and deficit, the recession, and the reduction of the industrial power in light of the advance of major Asian enterprises, are only some of the problems the new U.S. president must face.

Clinton will also have to solve the increasing demands of the marginal U.S. sectors affected over the last 12 years by the cuts imposed by harsh republican policies on the social aspects of the budget.

In the case of Panama, the effects of the economic sanctions imposed since 1988, the damage inflicted on Panamanian enterprises after operation Just Cause, and

the mystery surrounding the real number of civilian and military victims of the invasion will revive the debate between the two countries.

On the other hand, the fulfillment of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties is a lot safer with Clinton's democratic government than with a republican administration because it was James Carter who signed the agreements with General Omar Torrijos that will spawn a new relationship after the year 2000.

The democrats' firm point of view with regard to respect for human rights abroad may serve Panama, because the United States, which has been one of its main allies over the last 89 years, may be a decisive influence in ending the legal insecurity, political persecution, and governmental carelessness which the country has suffered over the last 33 months.

Although some believe that Bush's fall represents Endara's fall, the government will continue until 1994, when the Panamanian voters will have the opportunity to punish the current administration's actions. This punishing vote will also be issued, as foreseen in the polls, on 15 November when 1.4 million Panamanians will vote on a package of reforms to the Torrijist Constitution of 1972.

Endara will continue in office and a less complaisant U.S. administration may help this administration serve the nation with intelligence, statesmanlike foresight, and political determination.

All this means that corruption, abuses of power, and conflicts among officials must all be ended and an economic policy aimed at rapidly reducing poverty and unemployment must be developed.

Endara lost because, with the democrats, there will be no more compliant support which even included the use of U.S. troops to quell the police uprising of 4 and 5 December 1990. And since politics is like dominoes, the demoralizing effects on the Endara administration will be even more evident if No wins in the referendum.

There will be a massive punishment vote. All the people who rejected the actions of General Manuel Antonio Noriega will use the only means they have for protesting the vote. This punishment will be repeated against the whole alliance that came to power on 20 December 1989 during the 1994 general elections.

There should be no dramatic changes for the national economy in spite of Clinton's threats about applying protectionism. If the dollar becomes stronger, as is foreseen, the Panamanian economy should come out with flying colors.

With the dollar as legal tender for all of the country's financial operations, future economic growth is more likely now than with the past [U.S.] republican administration.

The next two weeks are key weeks for Endara. A No in the referendum would not only be a rejection to the reforms, it would also be a harsh blow to the intentions of Endara, and all the governing parties, to gain legitimacy for their regime.

Bush's defeat is also a defeat for Endara. Let us hope that Clinton and the democrats in power correct the course and treat Panama as a nation.

UN Protocol Abolishing Death Penalty Ratified

PA0711175592 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 7 Nov 92 p 2A

[Report by Carlos Vargas]

[Text] On 6 November, the National Assembly ratified its support of the Second Facultative Protocol of the International Pact on Civil and Political Rights, aimed at abolishing the death penalty.

The objective of the protocol, which was endorsed as Bill Proposal No. 9, is for the Republic of Panama to pledge its international commitment toward respecting life as the fundamental right of all persons.

This protocol was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 15 December 1989 with the certainty that the death sentence abolishment would contribute toward raising human dignity and progressively developing human rights.

The document points out that although the national Constitution bars the death penalty, with the ratification of the protocol, the Republic of Panama internationally reaffirms its interest in contributing to respect for the life of all human beings.

The protocol establishes in its first article that no person subject to the jurisdiction of a state signatory to the present document will be executed.

Said protocol will come into force once the Panamanian authorities have returned the protocol ratification instruments to the UN secretary general.

At its 6 November session, the National Assembly also discussed the bill proposal regulating the public transportation system.

At the end of the first required four hours of debate, legislators were unable to approve any of the articles of the proposal because a majority was not present.

Argentina

'Concern' Voiced Over Clinton Policies on Trade

PY0811193192 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 5 Nov 92 p 2

[Excerpts] The Argentine Government reacted yesterday with concern over the victory of Democrat Bill Clinton in the elections in the United States. The Menem administration experienced a day of uneasiness marked by fears over the course that the next U.S. Administration (which has to meet domestic demands and reactivate the economy) might take on the economy, and by a measure of political uncertainty over the lack of easy contact with the Clinton team (because up until the last moment there was hope that Bush would win).

President Menem himself denied speculation about changes in relations with the United States after the defeat of Bush, who for Menem personified the relations between the two countries. Menem said there would be no changes in relations, but revealed one of the government's concerns: "It would be inappropriate" for Clinton to increase subsidies on farm exports.

Following are some of the reasons for the Argentine Government's concern over the economy:

—U.S. subsidies on its farm products, which allow U.S. producers to reduce their prices and thus advantageously compete—with respect to Argentina, for example—on the international market.

—negotiations to formalize Argentina's entry into the Brady plan, which provides for a reduction in foreign debt.

—the possibility that Clinton may increase the protectionist barriers of the U.S. market, thus further intensifying the "commercial war" with the European Economic Community (EEC) and Japan, which may end up harming Argentine exports.

—the possibility that Clinton may increase interest rates, a measure that would increase the payments that Argentina has to make on its foreign debt, thus making investment in Argentina less attractive. [passage omitted]

In statements made over the radio, Menem said that a group of U.S. Democratic congressmen recently told him at the Casa Rosada that "the way things are going in the United States, we will have to enforce the same (economic) policy that was enforced in Argentina."

"We will see whether Clinton dares to enforce it," Menem challenged.

Menem, who yesterday gave long explanations, paid particular attention to commercial matters. He said that it is "not only the United States, but also the EEC which has protectionist policies." Therefore, "we will continue to insist on the Uruguay round of the GATT (General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs) talks to put an end to this type of barrier," he added.

Menem said that "the economic war (between the United States, Europe, and Japan) which is under way might force Clinton to turn his eyes toward the American continent, which remains untouched."

Menem hopes Clinton will promote investment in "Latin America, especially in Argentina, which offers some advantages with respect to the other Latin American countries" in the economic area.

Ties Will Be Strengthened

With regard to the influence of Clinton's victory on U.S.-Argentine relations, Menem said "there will be no new relations but a strengthening" of ties.

Yet not everything causes concern. Menem was calmed because Clinton, "as I read it, plans to continue with the Americas Initiative" or the Bush project for creating a free trade zone from Alaska to Tierra del Fuego.

Based on the Americas Initiative, the Argentine Government had considered the possibility of joining the Common Market of the South (Mercosur) to the North American Free Trade Agreement of the United States, Canada, and Mexico, which is known as NAFTA. [passage omitted]

President Addresses Chamber of Commerce

PY0611223892 Buenos Aires Radio Nacional Network in Spanish 1500 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Excerpts] President Carlos Menem last night attended a ceremony to celebrate the Argentine Chamber of Commerce's anniversary. Chamber of Commerce President Carlos Raul de la Vega and Menem made speeches on this occasion. [passage omitted]

President Menem said:

[Begin Menem recording] Business colleagues, we must adjust the structures to the discipline of stability. An adjustment to the ethical standard of behavior with respect to consumers and the state currently prevails. The government promotes the policy of defending consumers, based mainly on the growth of private consumer associations. To this end, an increasing role must be assigned to consumers and to the consolidation of price, quality, guarantees, and reliability that are offered to them.

We must end disloyal behavior that seeks commercial success through misinformation, deceptive advertising, and fraud against consumers. We must strengthen the policy in defense of competence because we know that commerce is currently one of the main pillars of this change. Commerce obviously steers the economy. It is the thermometer that measures the variables to which society is subject.

Commerce is an essential activity for Argentina's economic development, and it is the base for this country to definitively reinstate itself among developed countries.

Business colleagues, Argentina itself is a great enterprise that is overcoming its deficit with everyone's cooperation. This enterprise has more than 30 millions partners, that is, all my fellow countrymen. I call on all of them, through you businessmen, to all producers nationwide, to continue making efforts and supporting this process of change. As the Chamber of Commerce president said, not only the interests of groups or organizations are at stake, but the fatherland's sacred interests are at stake as well. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Minister's Income Revelations Spark 'Fierce Debate'

PY0911004792 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 8 Nov 92 p 4

[Excerpts] After two days of fierce debate surrounding his controversial remarks, Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo appears to have survived the worst of the storm as President Carlos Menem ended speculation about the future of the minister by confirming that "he is more secure than ever before" in his position. [passage omitted]

Cavallo may still not be able to sleep easy at night, however, since his revelation as to his sources of income provoked the interest of federal prosecutors. On Friday [6 November] night the Justice Ministry announced that a preliminary investigation will be set up—to be led by Lidia Pombo, Oscar Ciruzzi, Roberto Amallo and Luis Comparatore—to determine whether the minister has indulged in any form of bribery to obtain the 10,000-pesos-a-month salary he said he needs to live on.

Cavallo made his ill-timed remarks on Thursday when he announced a 200-percent wage hike for top government officials, a day after the regular Wednesday protests by pensioners calling for an increase in their 150-peso monthly minimum payout and before tomorrow's first national strike under Menem concerning pay increases. While pointing to his monthly costs, including official parties and sending his children to St. Andrew's School, Cavallo explained that he received 1,800 pesos from his government position and a further 8,000 pesos from the Mediterranea Foundation economic research group.

Economy Ministry official Horacio Liendo insisted yesterday that "there is no legal or ethical incompatibility" between Cavallo's ministry job and his involvement in economic research. Liendo made clear that there is nothing in the Constitution nor in the country's laws that prevents the President or any member of the Cabinet from earning a salary through an assignment like Cavallo has with the various companies group under the foundation.

The federal prosecutors are planning to interview the organization's president in order to assess any income from the business. If inconsistencies are found under the section of the penal code that refers to crimes against the public administration a case may be opened against Cavallo. The penalty for bribery is a prison sentence of up to six years.

The furious debate that blew up after Cavallo's comments was reflected on Friday in stock market trading when shares fell 6.8 percent. In addition a slight fall of the peso for the first time in a year left the peso's value against the dollar at 1.01. The movements were the result of speculation over whether Cavallo would resign and they prompted Interior Minister Jose Luis Manzano to express his support for Cavallo and state that "those who attack Domingo Cavallo are playing irresponsibly with the failure of the country." [passage omitted]

Menem Praises Army's Struggle Against Subversion

PY0711010892 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Nov 92 p 7

[Text] Speaking to the Army commanders and chiefs of military units at the Libertador building, which is Army headquarters, President Carlos Menem yesterday praised the performance of the Army in the fight against subversion. He noted that the Army "has showed that it can restore and maintain peace in the country."

Alluding to recent events, Menem said: "No one could take to the streets a short time ago." He noted that "the people and the Army represent the synthesis of a free Argentina, which is now a trustworthy and secure country."

Before approximately 400 senior officers, Menem said that "Argentina needs skillful and modern infantry forces" that can persuade, dissuade, and fight if necessary.

Menem attended the closure of the two-day courses designed for unit commanders. Attending the course were active-duty generals, colonels to be promoted, recently elected chiefs of units, and those who will remain in these posts next year. Menem stated: "The Army has understood the current situation and it now is immersed in this deep change that led Argentina to occupy a new place in the world." He said this at the General San Martin Hall in the presence of military officers dressed in summer uniforms—short-sleeve shirts and without neckties—despite the cold that hit Buenos Aires yesterday.

The ceremony also was attended by Defense Minister Antonio Erman Gonzalez, Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Martin Balza, and the active-duty generals from all Army units.

Referring to the international situation after the end of the Cold War, Menem charged the Marxist states "with the deplorable condition of many communities, a situation that was overcome under the new international order." He said that "subversion, terrorism, which are

actions that go against the nature of the human being, have caused really dramatic situations in the world."

Commenting on the collapse of the Soviet bloc, Menem said: "The United States, the great country of the north, emerged from the struggle that begun with World War I, and continued fighting for the freedom of Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf. This country is now one of the main pillars of the United Nations."

Balza, in turn, outlined the Army's objectives for next year: "unrestricted respect for the constitutional order, the return of pride to the cadres, action in command characterized by personal example, and the need to have a skillful Army with quality prevailing over quantity."

Balza said: "We must consider that we are part of an Army that owns an ample and rich war experience," (antisubversive, Malvinas). He stated: "One can learn even from lost wars."

He then announced that "the participation of women in the Army will be expanded" and that "the reorganization aimed at reducing the forces will continue."

Cooperation Agreement With UK Becomes Law

PY0611212292 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Nov 92 Section 1 p 7

[Text] The Senate yesterday approved as law the agreement for the promotion and protection of investments between Argentina and the United Kingdom, and a project that allows handicapped people to import vehicles.

During the session, which began at 1800 and ended at 2000, the Senate approved the agreement with Great Britain with the favorable votes of the Justicialist Party [PJ] and the Neuquen Popular Movement, while senators from the Radical Civic Union [UCR] and the Autonomist and Liberal Pact [PAL] of Corrientes voted against.

During the debate on the agreement, Hipolito Solari Yrigoyen (UCR) asked that the issue be treated by the committee, warning that "we must not give up sovereignty over the Malvinas, South Georgia, and South Sandwich Islands," after which he recalled that Malvinas Islands Governor David Tatham refused to accept Argentine investments.

Solari Yrigoyen particularly questioned Article 12 of the agreement, which refers to the fact that investments "could be extended to countries for whose international relations the United Kingdom is responsible."

Luis Leon also said that "not long ago the Senate repudiated the United Kingdom's unilateral exploitation of the natural resources existing in the Malvinas."

However, Senate Provisional President Eduardo Menem (PJ) noted that the agreement with Great Britain "does not affect Argentine demands for sovereignty over the islands because they are protected by the reservation of rights under the legal protection of the 'umbrellas.'"

The resolution is signed by Justicialist bloc members who belong to the Foreign Relations Committee, in addition to Adolfo Gass (UCR)—who is in Australia—and Juan Aguirre Lanari (PAL).

According to the national executive branch project, which ratifies the agreement signed on 11 December 1990, "the idea is to create favorable conditions for greater economic cooperation between the two countries, especially for investments from one state to another."

The initiative, which was signed by President Carlos Menem and Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella, admits that "foreign investors fear, basically, the instability of the legal, political, and economic rules, especially the risks of seeing the value of their investments affected by nationalizations or expropriations without due compensation."

"In order to cover these political risks, the initiative adds, it has been decided to sign bilateral agreements for the protection of investments, and it is the obligation of the states to abstain from adopting unjustified or discriminatory measures that might bar investments."

It adds that the agreement, "in addition to contributing to tightening bilateral relations with the United Kingdom, will help obtain a legal instrument to promote development of productive investments in the country."

Moreover, an initiative by Deputy Eduardo Amadeo (PJ) to grant benefits to handicapped people to import vehicles has been approved as law. These people must register at the Health and Social Action Ministry.

Foreign Minister Visits China, Meets Leaders

WA0911124492

For reportage on the visit by Guido di Tella, minister of foreign affairs and worship, to China, including reports on his talks with Chinese CPC General Secretary Jiang Zemin, Premier Li Peng, and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, please see the Latin America & Caribbean section of the 6 November China DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Bolivia

MNR Deputy Humboldt Escapes Gun Attack in Sucre

PY0611232792 La Paz Radio Fides Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Report by Sixto Valdez from Sucre]

[Excerpt] An attempt was made on Chuquisaca MNR [Nationalist Revolutionary Movement] Deputy Ciro Humboldt Barrrero's life early this morning between 0030 and 0100 local time [0430 and 0500 GMT]. An

unidentified person fired three shots at Humboldt but missed. The attack occurred a few meters from Humboldt's home on Espana Street near Sucre's Central Square. According to witnesses at the scene of the attack, Humboldt collapsed and became unconscious. None of the three shots hit him, however.

It is worth recalling that more than two weeks ago Humboldt got into a serious argument with MNR Chairman Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada. Fides managed to learn that before the attempt on his life, Humboldt had a meeting with Ramiro Paz Cerruto, the son of former President Victor Paz Estenssoro.

Police soon were at the attack scene to conduct the appropriate investigations. At around 0600 local time, we went to the police station, where the police officer on duty confirmed the facts, though he did not want to give us any details. Police Chief Abdon Laguna will give an official report on the issue later. No arrests have been made so far. A gun reportedly was found where Humboldt collapsed. It might belong to Humboldt, who drew the gun to defend himself when he heard the shots. Humboldt currently is being treated at a private clinic, where there is total secrecy about what happened. Humboldt's relatives refuse to make any comments on the issue, and the physician does not want to reveal the results of the test done on Humboldt after he arrived at the clinic. [passage omitted]

Interior Ministry To Investigate Attack

PY0611232992 La Paz Television Nacional Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] Interior Minister Carlos Saavedra Bruno warned today that the government will not allow violence within political parties in the country.

[Begin recording] [Saavedra] We have carried out a harsh struggle against terrorist activities in the country, therefore the government will not allow violence within political parties under any circumstances. In this regard, we will assign our best people to investigate what happened today. The Homicide, Ballistics, and Intelligence Police Departments already are working to find out the details of an alleged attack against a national deputy. In this regard, the president of the Republic wants the electoral campaign to be carried out under normal conditions within the democratic framework the country has been experiencing for more than 10 years. Therefore, the appropriate investigation will be carried out, and the Interior Ministry will not allow any violence within political party activities.

[Unidentified reporter] It is said that the violence came from his own party. There are also rumors that it was a self-inflicted attack.

[Saavedra] No, there is no speculation in this regard. We must investigate to find out what really happened. After an investigation is carried out and all the information from the National Police is gathered, we will try to clarify what really happened at 0040 today. There is no speculation in this case. The Interior Ministry is not going to speculate on this case. [end recording]

Brazil

Economic Team Proposes Constitutional Amendments

PY0611181692 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 4 Nov 92 p 21

[Text] Brasilia—According to the latest version prepared by the economic team, the main changes in the proposal for constitutional amendments which is to be submitted to interim President Itamar Franco today are the following:

1. Authorize the creation of Taxes on Financial Transactions [Imposto sobre Transacoes Financeiras], or ITF, which will be in force until 31 December 1994 and not until 31 December 1993 as previously announced.
2. Create a value added tax which will replace the Finsocial [Social Investment Fund], the tax on profits, and the Social Integration Program (PIS).
3. Create a tax on assets which for the time being can be figured from the income tax paid.
4. The ITF and the value added tax will not be subject to the principle of annuity. In other words, they can be paid the same fiscal year they were created.
5. Create a selective tax on beverages, vehicles, energy, tobacco, fuels, and telecommunications.
6. Companies which had an above average employee turnover will have to make an additional contribution to unemployment insurance. The amount of this contribution will be defined by law.
7. The Senate and the Chamber of Deputies will be allowed to increase their staff, transform some posts, and establish salaries only through a draft bill. The creation of posts and the establishment of salaries is currently defined through administrative action.
8. The prerogative of states to charge an additional 5 percent on top of the income tax will be eliminated.
9. States and municipalities will not be allowed to issue new debt papers until 31 December 1999. The issuance of these papers will remain restricted to the refinancing of the already existing debt.
10. The federal government will no longer assume the costs and mortgages of the internal and external debts of the states, municipalities, their autonomous organizations, public companies, or mixed capital companies.
11. The federal government will be entitled to withhold the participation fund allocations of the states and municipalities that have an outstanding debt with the federal government, its autonomous organizations, or the social security system. Under the current Constitution such a prerogative is not applicable to debts with autonomous organizations or with the social security system.
12. The creation of new municipalities will depend on an additional state law and on a plebiscite among the inhabitants of the municipality that will be split.

13. The final decisions of the Federal Supreme Court of Justice will be immediately enforced among the lower courts of justice.
14. Any subsidy concession, tax exemption, or reduction in the calculation of the tax base will be approved only through a specific law. This will be effective for the federal government, states, and municipalities.
15. The federal government will no longer be obliged to distribute among states and municipalities 20 percent of the revenues obtained through the creation of new taxes.
16. The federal government cannot create new universities and autonomous higher education institutes. The already existing federal universities will receive a budget from the federal government, but they will have administrative and financial autonomy.
17. The constitutional amendment will authorize the privatization of the postal services and national air mail service. The federal government will only organize the postal service.
18. The federal government will no longer be obliged to maintain the civil and military police of the Federal District.

Government Details Fiscal Reform Bill

PY0611172892 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1500 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] The government has officially released details of the fiscal reform proposal submitted to Congress as a constitutional amendment.

The ministers of finance, planning, labor, and social security referred to the main topics of the reform at Planalto Palace this morning. The ministers' announcement was more than a fiscal reform; in fact, the amendment that is now in Congress is a proposal for a government program. The ministers explained that the government must pay its domestic debt to make interest rates and inflation drop. This is why 50 percent of the revenues to be collected with this reform—130 trillion cruzeiros—will serve to repay this debt.

The government will reduce spending, fight tax evasion, and create new taxes to obtain this money.

A value-added tax will be levied on the consumption of goods and services and will replace the Finsocial [Social Investment Fund], the PIS-PASEP [Social Integration Program Government Employees Welfare Fund] and the tax on profits.

A selective tax will be enforced on cigarettes, beverages, vehicles, electric power, fuels, and telecommunications, and will replace the IPI [Tax on Manufactured Products].

A temporary tax on financial operations will be collected on all checks at the top rate of 0.3 percent. People will pay this tax, known as the IMF [Imposto sobre Movimentacao Financeira—Financial Operations Tax], whenever they withdraw funds from their checking accounts. Whenever you cash a check, you will pay a tax equivalent to 0.25 percent of the amount that was withdrawn. This tax may, if necessary, be increased to 0.3 percent.

This tax will not apply to the FGTS [Severance Pay Fund], unemployment insurance, social security benefits, and funds remaining in savings accounts for more than three months. In such cases, the government will refund the collected tax, and people will not lose anything.

Another important detail: To compensate for the impact of this tax on workers, the discounts from paychecks—which are earmarked as social security contributions—will drop a bit. The new percentages of the discounts will be 7.75, 8.75, and 9.75 percent.

The fiscal reform bill also proposed the creation of a tax on company assets. However, this tax will be not be enforced until 1994. Companies will pay higher income tax for the time being.

From now on the government would like payments to be made by those who can pay. Consequently, this increase will apply only to the income tax paid by corporations. The income tax paid by individuals will remain unchanged.

Another major proposal will modify banking secrecy. The government would like the finance minister to have access at any time to the total amount of operations in checking accounts or credit cards.

Industry, Labor Ministers Explain Fiscal Reform

PY0711001392 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2100 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Report by Wilma Thilman from Sao Paulo]

[Text] Minister of Industry, Commerce, and Tourism Jose Eduardo de Andrade Vieira today met businessmen at the headquarters of the Sao Paulo State Federation of Industries, FIESP, to explain the fiscal reform draft bill sent to Congress. Through this reform, the government intends to definitively solve the Brazilian budget problem.

[Begin Vieira recording, in progress] ... to create the conditions to reduce the public debt, which is what has fueled inflation, and mainly to reduce interest rates, which is another factor that prevents investments and the resumption of development. Therefore, this reform constitutionally guarantees that half of what is collected through the temporary tax on financial movements will be used to pay the public debt. [end recording]

In Sao Paulo, the minister also met union leaders, to whom he said the fiscal reform bill will be approved by Congress this year.

Another minister who also was in Sao Paulo to explain the fiscal reform was Labor Minister Walter Barelli, who said that by order of President Itamar Franco, he met

today with FIESP businessmen. He told them it is necessary to pay the new tax to see the results:

[Begin Franco recording] This fiscal reform spares the population in general because it will grant them a credit equivalent to the tax that will be charged. It will not affect workers, savings accounts, the Severance Pay Fund [Fundo de Garantia], unemployment insurance, or pensions. This is a government that cares for the people and that solves the problems of the poor. [end recording]

In the afternoon, Minister Barelli met with leaders of the Sole Workers Center and the regional Central Federation of Workers. He explained to them that this fiscal reform creates a new tax but it also eliminates several other taxes and contributions with the objective of guaranteeing national economic development.

Minister Barelli is meeting right now with bankers in the headquarters of the Brazilian Federation of Banks, where they are discussing collective labor contracts.

Guajajara Indians Seize Buses, Take 370 Hostages

PY0611192492 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1500 GMT 5 Nov 92

[Text] At least 370 persons are being held hostage by Guajajara Indians in a region of Maranhao State. Federal Police and Highway Police agents are arriving at the point on the highway where the hostages have been kept since the evening of 3 November.

The BR 226 highway crosses the Guajajara reservation in Barra do Corda. The Indians seized seven buses and several cars and took 400 passengers hostage. For almost two days now, the hostages have been on the roadside, without food and water.

FUNAI [National Indian Foundation] has sent a truck with food to the area and is negotiating the release of the hostages. The Indians want the Maranhao Government and the Federal Government to expel the 6,000 whites living in the village of (Sao Pedro dos Cacetes), which is located inside the Indian reservation.

The police have ordered the arrest of four Indians who led the abducting of the whites along the highway in Maranhao.

Chile

Government Signs Drug Agreement With Bolivia

PY0611191092 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] The Chilean and Bolivian Governments have signed an agreement through which the two countries commit themselves to joint efforts through their respective specialized services to fight the illegal traffic of narcotics and hallucinogenic substances.

This is the first agreement between the two governments for 30 years, since the two countries broke diplomatic relations in 1962. The document was signed by Gonzalo Torrico, Bolivian social defense under secretary, and Chilean Interior Under Secretary Belisario Velasco.

[Begin Velasco recording] The problem of drug trafficking in our country is real and has been growing since the beginning of the 1980's. We have tackled the problem by giving government support to the Carabineros and Investigative Police Departments. We have provided these departments with more personnel and equipment and increased their training. [end recording]

The agreement will permit the direct exchange of information on the control and repression of the illegal trade of narcotics, and information on the importation, export, and transport of essential chemicals and precursors used to produce drugs.

The agreement will also speed up the letters rogatory issued by court authorities in trials involving the violation of laws on the illegal traffic of narcotics and hallucinogenic substances. The agreement also contemplates the creation of technical work groups on juridical matters, among others, which will establish their own regulations and recommend specific joint actions to achieve agreed objectives.

Aylwin Departs on 15-Day Trip to China, Japan

PY0711175492 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Nov 92

[Text] President Patrio Aylwin today began a 15-day tour of Asia, during which he will visit Malaysia, China, and Japan, countries with which efforts will be made to promote commercial relations. Before his departure, the president noted the significance of his visit from the political, cultural, and economic viewpoints. He emphasized that this is the first time that a Chilean president will visit those countries, adding that this will be the most unique trip he has ever made.

[Begin Aylwin recording] We will visit a world that is little known to us. This is another important factor, that is, they should know us and we should know them. [end recording]

President Aylwin is accompanied by a large entourage made up of ministers, congressmen, and entrepreneurs. The first stopover will be in Papeete, while Malaysia will be the first leg of his tour. During the president's absence, Interior Minister Enrique Krauss will assume presidential duties in his capacity as vice president.

Carabineros Seizes Arsenal, Arrests Terrorists

PY0711114692 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] Three alleged MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] militants were arrested in the Eighth Region by officers of the Bulnes Carabineros Station.

The individuals, who were found in possession of a great quantity of weapons and explosives, were identified as the brothers (Ricardo Alfonso), (Juan Carlos Lachle Vallejos), and (Esaul Barcijai) who, during a routine traffic inspection, were caught illegally carrying weapons.

Following a series of enquiries, Carabineros found the arsenal these extremists allegedly kept spread out between Concepcion, Bulnes, and Chillan.

Among the weapons Carabineros found anti-tank grenades, submachine guns, revolvers, home made grenades, tracking equipment, [words indistinct].

The three individuals are registered as MIR members, according to Carabineros from Bulnes Province.

According to the Carabineros's report, (Carlos Lachle Vallejos) fled from Talcahuano prison in 1984.

The three individuals are believed to be responsible for robberies at gunpoint at the Chilean Tobacco Company in 1982 and at the Centrobanco in San Diego in 1990.

This afternoon, in the midst of tight security measures, Carabineros placed the arrested individuals at the court's disposal.

Colombia

FARC Ambush Reportedly Kills 25 Policemen

PA0711173292 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Nov 92

[Text] Twenty-five policemen were killed in a guerrilla attack in the (Argosy) area near the (Dorito) oil field in Putumayo. One sub-officer and 24 policemen were gunned down by three Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] columns in an ambush. There is no official confirmation as to the number of dead, but it has been said that there are only two survivors. The remaining 25 uniformed policemen were murdered. The fight lasted seven hours. Defense Minister Rafael Pardo and National Police Director General Miguel Gomez Padilla have just left for the area.

Minister, Police Chief Comment

PA0811032392 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0044 GMT 8 Nov 92

["Exclusive" interview with Defense Minister Rafael Pardo Rueda and National Police Chief General Miguel Antonio Gomez Padilla by unidentified reporter in Orito, Putumayo Department on 7 November—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Mr. Pardo, now what?

[Pardo] You have seen the criminal fury with which the guerrillas treated these policemen. You have been able to collect information that the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board cruelly killed those who were already wounded. The 25 men who perished here performed courageously. The country has suffered a great loss. This shows to most Colombians the guerrillas have no interest in anything other than murder and crime.

[Reporter] The guerrillas blew up a copper mine in Antioquia, which was the livelihood of thousands. They conducted a major attack in Santa Fe de Bogota. What are we going to do? What are the government and state going to do?

[Pardo] Your way of posing the question is incorrect. It is not the government or the state. The question is how are the people of Colombia going to face this threat? The government is willing to take action and has done so. Society is demanding that everybody, not just the government, the state, or the Armed Forces, reject this wave of crime and face the violent ones once and for all to defeat them.

[Reporter] General Gomez, who were those policemen?

[Gomez] They were Colombians who felt they could [word indistinct] themselves as persons by serving Colombia in the National Police.

[Reporter] Do you think they were unprotected in this region?

[Gomez] They were sufficiently prepared and trained to cope with the situation.

Insurgents Detonate 10 Bombs in Bogota

PA0711131592 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Nov 92

[Text] Things have returned to normal in Santa Fe de Bogota following the wave of terrorist activity reported at dawn on 7 November. A metropolitan police command spokesman told Caracol that they are in control of the situation and that efforts are still being made to intercept the insurgents who detonated 10 explosive devices throughout the city, damaging the structures of several financial institutions.

Guerrillas Attack Pipeline in Norte de Santander

PA0711131692 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Nov 92

[Text] Insurgents from the Guerrilla Coordinating Board over the past few hours attacked the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline. The insurgents activated several explosive devices in El Tarra Municipality, a rural area in Norte de Santander Department, moments after pumping was resumed after it was suspended due to damages caused by another attack earlier this week. The authorities say a great deal of crude was lost and the damage is incalculable.

Gaviria Addresses Nation, Calls For Unity

PA0811014592 Santa Fe de Bogota Radio and Television Networks in Spanish 0036 GMT 8 Nov 92

[Speech to the nation by President Cesar Gaviria Trujillo at Narino Palace in Santa Fe de Bogota on 7 November—recorded]

[Text] Colombians: Early on the morning of 7 November, 25 policemen and one noncommissioned officer were murdered in Putumayo Department. These policemen join the long list of DAS [Administrative Department of Security] agents and policemen murdered in the streets of Medellin in the last few days and the soldiers who have been killed as a result of the treacherous and terrorist acts of the guerrillas.

I want to express the entire country's solidarity with the Armed Forces and with the families of the murdered soldiers, DAS agents, and policemen. I also want to express the national government's condemnation of this criminal massacre. I want to stress to the Colombians that our resolve to confront without respite those who have become the country's worst criminals.

On various occasions, Colombian society has carried out political solutions to the armed conflict, seeking a dialogue with the guerrillas. This mechanism, which has been successful in the case of the 19 April Movement, the EPL [Popular Liberation Army], the Quintin Lame, and the Revolutionary Workers Party, has failed with the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] and the ELN [Army of National Liberation].

Neither the FARC, the ELN, nor the dissidents of the EPL, who chose to remain in the mountains, have ever shown a desire for peace. They did not show it during the past administration, and they have not shown it in these two years of my government. One cannot make peace with those who do not want peace. One cannot make peace with those who have abandoned revolutionary ideals for profitable bank accounts stemming from kidnapping, drug trafficking, extortion, and murder.

The dozens of murdered policemen and agents join the very lengthy list of Colombians, especially civilians—in many cases defenseless women and children—who are murdered by the guerrillas every day. This massacre is new proof that the guerrillas want only death. We are going to use a heavy hand against criminals and guerrillas. For two years, we have been strengthening the Army's capacity, creating new mobile brigades, professionalizing the soldiers who face the guerrillas, improving the salaries of the troops and officers, bolstering military intelligence, and significantly increasing the resources of the Colombian Armed Forces.

There is no doubt the political solutions have been weakened and that all the measures we have adopted to strengthen the Armed Forces and to make their presence more effective in the regions where the subversives act have been insufficient. The hard hand we are going to apply against the guerrillas will not be enough. I want Colombians to know this confrontation is not won with the social and political leadership sitting in comfortable chairs, criticizing what the Colombian soldiers achieve or do not achieve.

This battle will be won if we are all on the same side, not only in spirit but truly committed to the government and the Armed Forces, setting aside selfish feelings, personal or party interests, and opportunistic statements. This confrontation is won with the resolute action of effective justice and everyone's solidarity and commitment to the prosecutor general of the nation and all the Colombian judges. To those who ask for all-out confrontation, the government proposes comprehensive confrontation requiring real solidarity from everyone, combined judicial and military action, intelligence work, and the tax system, as well as the determined support of the National Congress.

The government has not only refused public regional dialogues with the guerrillas, but has also refused private negotiations with the guerrillas, which take place every day in many areas of Colombia with a look toward a small and transitory peace. If business leaders are demanding a tough stance, they should not yield to pressures from criminals. If politicians are asking the government for total war, they should abstain from heeding in their regions the calls by hoods and demanding regional dialogues every time they return from guerrilla camps. If leaders in rural areas are calling for war, they should not bankroll the enemy by paying protection money and ransom for kidnappings, but report them instead.

If the news media want a confrontation, they should not give their microphones to criminals and allow those who are mere kidnappers and murderers to become political leaders. On 8 November, following a meeting of the Security Council and an extraordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers, we will announce the series of measures the government will issue to face the treacherous attacks by the guerrilla criminals.

Colombians, this confrontation needs all of you. All of us must rally around the Colombian Government, soldiers, and policemen, those young men who every day sacrifice their lives to defend their fellow countrymen. All of us must support the authorities and those who every day are falling prey in the streets of Medellin to the bullets of the narcoterrorists' henchmen. Everybody must participate within their capabilities in this collective effort to eradicate the violence from this nation. It is that way, with an effort sustained through time and without succumbing to the terrorism and mass murders, that we will defeat the criminals. Colombia will then become a more just, prosperous, and peaceful society. Good night.

CNGSB 'Commandos' Carry Out Over 30 Attacks

PA0811154892 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1433 GMT 8 Nov 92

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 8 Nov (NOTIMEX)—The police have informed that urban guerrilla commandos attacked in the early hours of 8 November over 30 banks in different capitals around the country, attacks which left five people dead and 60 people wounded.

The police said that members of the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board (CNGSB) set off charges of up to 5 kg of dynamite in financial institutions in Medellin, Armenia, Cucuta, Pereira, Santa Marta, Valledupar, and Manizales—cities in the center and north of Colombia.

The wave of violence, which started just after 0000 on 7 November, killed five people in Antioquia Department. In its capital, Medellin, and surrounding areas rebels set off 23 medium- sized bombs, which left 60 people wounded.

The source indicated that anti-explosive experts managed to defuse 10 bombs that guerrillas had placed in Santa Fe de Bogota and Santa Marta banks.

The CNGSB upsurge took place hours after President Cesar Gaviria announced over a radio and television network that his government would take emergency measures to severely confront the guerrillas.

Gaviria said that "there will be a heavy hand for those who do not want peace" and called on various sectors in Colombia to support the military forces in their battle against "subversion."

The day before, guerrillas attacked the Orito oil complex in Putumayo Department and killed 26 policemen guarding the facilities.

In view of the public order situation, which according to analysts is one of the most serious of the past 10 years, the president summoned on 8 November an extraordinary security session in which mechanisms will be adopted to face up to the guerrillas' military actions.

'State of Internal Disturbance' Declared

PA0811215292 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 2114 GMT 8 Nov 92

[Text] We have a last minute special bulletin. Attention. The national government has just decided to declare a state of internal disturbance. President Cesar Gaviria on the evening of 8 November will make public the decree through which the government resorts to the powers granted by Article 213 of the Constitution. The decree was signed a few minutes ago by all the ministers.

On the basis of the state of internal disturbance, the government plans to offer rewards for the capture of the main guerrilla chiefs. The government is also adopting measures to increase the number of troops in the Armed Forces. Regulations will be issued to permit the Armed Forces greater effectiveness in the struggle against subversion and the destabilizing factors of the country's public order. Those measures include some aimed at eliminating corruption among government officials. Sanctions will also be applied against officials who in any way establish contact with the guerrillas.

For the second time during this administration, the government resorts to the state of internal disturbance. The decrees have already been signed by the ministers. On the evening of 8 November, they will be made public by President Cesar Gaviria Trujillo, who for the second consecutive day, will address the nation over radio and television.

We now have a report from Narino Palace, where reporter Fabio Callejas will tell us about the Council of Ministers meeting that just ended.

[Callejas] At this time, President Cesar Gaviria, his advisers, and ministers are putting the final touches on the speech he will deliver this evening at 2030 [0030 GMT]. The national government is basing its decision on Article 213 of the new Constitution which establishes that in the case of serious disturbance of public order presenting an imminent threat to institutional stability, the security of the state, or national coexistence, and which cannot be averted by using the ordinary powers of the police authorities, the president—with the signature of all the ministers—may declare a state of internal disturbance throughout the country or in part of it for a period not to exceed 90 days. That period may be extended for two similar periods, the second of which requires prior approval by the Senate.

Gaviria Address to Nation

PA0911021592 Santa Fe de Bogota Radio and Television Networks in Spanish 0038 GMT 9 Nov 92

[Address to the nation by President Cesar Gaviria from Narino Palace in Santa Fe de Bogota—live]

[Text] Colombians: On the evening of 7 November, as a result of the cowardly attack perpetrated by criminals of the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] in Putumayo, which left 26 national policemen dead, I announced to the country the government's plan to issue a number of measures to face the wave of terrorism being experienced by Colombia. This wave of terrorism not only stems from the senselessness and cruelty of the guerrillas, but also from narcoterrorism in Medellin, which has left dozens of policemen and Administrative Department of Security [DAS] officers murdered in the last few days.

On the morning of 8 November, I gathered those whose main responsibility is the public order and I spoke with the nation's prosecutor general and attorney general. Through the media, I heard the words of Monsignor Rubiano, president of the Colombian Bishops Conference, who issued a call to face the violent ones in

Colombia. I know that all of Colombia is waiting for resolute action against the terrorists, murderers, and kidnappers, against that handful of deranged fanatics who have not read in the newspapers the sorry story of the end of communist totalitarianism. They no longer represent any ideals. Today, they are not even the revolutionary vanguard. They left ideology behind. They only seek the enrichment of their leaders and the growth of checkbooks based on kidnappings, extortion, hired assassins, and protection money. Today, they are nothing but the drug traffickers' rearguard.

Colombians, by summoning the Constituent Assembly and issuing the Constitution of 1991, citizens promoted a peaceful revolution. The FARC and the Army of National Liberation [ELN] did not join this process to defend rights, expand democracy, and strengthen institutions. They chose to defy the will of the people and remain anchored in the past. Let us, once again being united, enforce respect for this Constitution which we all established. We have used and will continue to use the path of legitimacy, of strengthening Colombian justice, and of respect for human rights, which the establishment of a new Constitution entailed. That is our peace policy, which is not exhausted with a dialogue with the guerrillas and which does not rule out the search for political solutions. That is the Colombian people's will. Nevertheless, we will not only continue to strengthen the public force; we will also apply a hard hand against the violent ones, and we will issue measures directed at the hearts and checkbooks of the guerrillas.

During its 8 November session, the Council of Ministers approved the declaration of internal disturbance. With this instrument, on 9 November and in the next few days, the government will issue a number of measures whose orientation I want to explain this evening.

First, we are going to attack with determination and conviction the subversives' sources of financing, an area in which the guerrillas have undoubtedly strengthened themselves from access to resources from drug trafficking, kidnapping, extortion, and even state resources, such as might occur in the case of petroleum royalties.

For that purpose, the government is seeking to administer at the national level the oil royalties of Arauca, Putumayo, and Casanare Departments, respecting the distribution made by the respective departmental assembly. We are not seeking with this measure to deprive these departments of these resources, but to keep a large amount of resources from going into the coffers of the ELN and the FARC. We will also conduct a special audit on contracts in these departments. This audit could be conducted by the military.

Second, we will seek to freeze funds that presumably come from the product of crimes such as kidnapping or extortion, or are earmarked to finance subversive activities. These funds will be put at the disposal of the Office of the Prosecutor General of the Republic. We will also conduct special audits on some presumably community entities that may serve as fronts for the guerrillas. We will also hold banks responsible for the handling of accounts linked to the guerrillas and kidnappings.

Third, referring to all contracts between local and foreign companies and the state, we will establish the authority to terminate them whenever it is proven these companies are making payments to the guerrillas. We will ban these companies from signing new contracts with the Colombian state.

Fourth, if public officials at every level, including governors and mayors of course, fail to comply with the president's order on public order matters and have any contact with guerrillas or criminals, they will be suspended temporarily and, if need be, dismissed.

Fifth, in coordination with the prosecutor general of the Republic, the government will seek to create new types of penal offenses for assisting guerrillas and will increase the punishment for the crime of harboring guerrillas or not reporting guerrilla activities, which includes, of course, those who meet with guerrillas and do not report them to the authorities.

Sixth, to reinforce the ties between peasants, citizens, merchants, businessmen, and bus owners with the authorities, the Communications Ministry will grant all the necessary permits to create private communications networks that serve to prevent criminal attacks and pursue outlaws. These networks are to be cofinanced by the departmental security funds, which the national government recently increased, and must have the financial backing of the law-abiding citizens of this country.

Seventh, we will seek measures to prevent the justification of violence in the news media, as well as live and direct broadcasts of military operations and subversive actions, communiques, and interviews with criminals. This is a long-standing aspiration of many democrats and a large number of reporters, which will not seek to affect the freedom of the press, but will seek to keep the news media from serving the interests of these declared enemies of the nation.

Eighth, we will suspend the power to grant land deeds to the regional directors of the Colombian Institute of Agrarian Reform in Arauca, Cesar, and Casanare Departments, and transfer that authority to the national director. This is done because granting land deeds often benefits the guerrilla. We will seek the creation of territorial reserves in the areas near oil exploration and exploitation zones to prevent settlements promoted by the guerrillas.

Ninth, regarding the public force, we will increase the life insurance of the members of the Armed Forces and DAS. The government will boost the actions of the national rehabilitation plan in strife-torn areas. In the past, this plan has proven its effectiveness and capacity to upgrade the social conditions of these communities.

We will strengthen the program to protect and give immunity to national and foreign witnesses to face the actions of narcoterrorism with additional measures. The government also places special importance on the statutory law on states of emergency the Congress is currently debating. It contains important measures to fight the guerrillas, drug trafficking, and other forms of crime.

Finally, as was the case with Pablo Escobar and his followers, the government will offer a reward to anyone providing information leading to the arrest of Manuel Marulanda Velez, also known as Tirofijo, who is the leader of FARC, and of Manuel Perez, leader of the ELN.

The government will offer a reward to anyone providing information on front commanders, group leaders, masterminds, and perpetrators of murders of policemen and security agents in Medellin. This measure has yielded results. Among other things, it helped the authorities locate the whereabouts of so-called Tyson.

As for the strengthening of the public force, we have developed a strategy based on the following points since 1991: First, we strengthened military, police, and DAS intelligence capabilities by increasing tenfold the resources of the units that collect information. We increased intelligence networks threefold and supplied these services with better scientific and technological means.

Second, we improved the counterguerrilla operational capabilities of the military forces. The country today has a highly professional Army. Two years ago we had only 2,000 professional soldiers; now we have more than 12,000. These are the specialized counterguerrilla companies and mobile brigades that are better trained and highly motivated, and have proven to be efficient in the antisubversive struggle.

Third, we are now protecting 700 facilities that are important from the economic standpoint in the most remote areas of our territory that had no protection in the past.

Fourth, we created 12 anti-extortion and kidnapping units [Unase], whose success requires little explanation. All these initiatives were financed by the war tax and supported by national budget resources. The tax reform will continue to support this effort and allow us to have 33 new counterguerrilla companies and 17 new infantry companies in 1993. In 1993, we will also have nine new Unase groups for a total of 21. We will also implement a special new rural police program, which will involve police who will be deployed to more than 400 populated areas of the national territory with no current public force.

This is only to mention some of the measures we are willing to adopt in the upcoming days to attack the guerrillas' leadership, finances, operational capability, and urban networks, and to face the criminal wave of narcoterrorism in Medellin.

All Colombians, however, must reflect on their role in this struggle on 8 November. I repeat, this combat is not won by armies but by people and nations. Either all of us fight against the guerrillas and violence or they will continue their criminal operations. A limited peace agreement reached with the guerrillas by someone in a specific region will only serve to strengthen subversion elsewhere in the country.

It is like feeding the tiger that will eat all of us later. The payment of protection money is a guarantee for the survival of the guerrillas. The payment of a ransom is not only that—it nourishes the monster, it fattens the bank accounts of the guerrilla leaders, and it strengthens their ability to attack. A kidnap victim who is freed by payment of a ransom will result in two or three more kidnappings. This is why we will resolutely support the anti-kidnapping law which, with the support of more than 1 million fellow countrymen, is under the consideration of the National Congress.

Colombians, let us unite today. Let us unite to achieve what history has shown has been obtained in the rest of the world: The defeat of the totalitarians and the rescue of democracy. Let us not stop with useless rhetorical expressions of solidarity. The defeat of our soldiers would be our defeat. Their victory—definite if we maintain our struggle—will be the victory of our children and grandchildren. Good night.

Gaviria Speech on Air Force Anniversary

PA0811171492 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1528 GMT 8 Nov

[Speech by President Cesar Gaviria Trujillo at Simon Bolivar Park marking the Air Force's 73d anniversary; broadcast in progress—live]

[Excerpts] ...I am honored to greet all officers, suboffic-ers, ensigns, cadets, soldiers, and civilian employees of the Colombian Air Force, who with their work, dedication, and enthusiasm keep the spirit of our military aviation alive. I also must remember [announcer's voice overrides Gaviria's statements] ...their sacrifices have contributed to make our Air Force great. [passage omitted]

Today, the Air Force not only has more than 250 aircraft and 100 helicopters, but also one of the highest levels of readiness in its entire history. Under the command of General Manuel Jaime Forero Quinonez, our military aviation has reached a high combat capacity, comparable to the most advanced air forces. This accomplishment is the result of the leadership of the Air Force senior officers, the technical capacity of its members, and the decisive support of the government. [passage omitted]

Within the guidelines established by the national strategy against violence, the government has increased its capacity to patrol the airspace through the installation of a network of radar. The new radar has permitted the

creation of a National Vigilance Center, where the signals of all civilian and military radar of the country are registered.

There is no better backdrop than this to once again broach the subject of the government's position in the face of the terrorist upsurge by guerrilla groups and the murder in Medellin of policemen and Administrative Department of Security [DAS] members.

On 7 November, I spoke to the entire country and expressed the solidarity of the entire country and the president to the Armed Forces and relatives of the murdered soldiers, DAS agents, and policemen, as well as the government's repudiation of the criminal massacre in Putumayo Department. Today I wish to reemphasize this position.

What we have in mind is to show a common front, led by the government, but which must include the solidarity of citizens (?who will receive all the assistance from the authorities), to fight subversion and organized crime and give full support to actions by public forces. These actions must have the absolute cooperation of all public officials—mayors, governors, and managers of institutions—to make no more deals with the guerrillas and no more private pacts with terrorists that accomplish only transitory and [word indistinct] peace and only extend the criminals' stay.

We need a common front where the private sector, peasants, businessmen, and citizens stop financing the guerrillas' criminal apparatus by paying extortion money [vacuna], graft, and ransom money.

Frankly speaking, it is not easy to defeat subversion when people continue giving them concessions and padding their bank accounts. The entire country is now aware that the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia and the Army of National Liberation do not want peace and have never sought it. What they intend is to continue murdering, robbing, and destroying everything in their way, like a godless, lawless plague.

Many young Colombians—youngsters, women, and children—have died because this minority, anchored in the past, clinging to the stocks of their rifles and the lucrative drug trafficking business, refuse to listen to reason. If at any time in the past, the guerrillas intended to be at the forefront of armed revolution, today they are at the rear, behind the drug traffickers who cultivate poppies and coca.

The moment has come to face up to the guerrillas without a truce—in the military, judicial, legislative fields, and with the support of the citizenry—against those who have become Colombia's worst criminals. We are going to be tough with these criminals and guerrillas.

We have spent two years strengthening the Army's capacity, creating new mobile brigades, making the soldiers who face the guerrillas more professional, improving the salaries of troops and officers, beefing up military intelligence, and significantly increasing Colombian Armed Forces' resources. These are continuing priorities and will be complemented by measures the government will adopt at a council of ministers meeting I have summoned for 8 November at Narino Palace.

This battle will be won if we are all on the same side—committed to the government and the Armed Forces, and laying aside selfish, individual, and party feelings. This confrontation will also be won with the determined actions of an efficient justice system, and general solidarity with and commitment to Colombian judges. As I mentioned on 7 November, to those asking for total confrontation, the government proposes whole confrontation [confrontacion integral]: the determination and courage that requires everyone's true solidarity, combining judicial and military actions in intelligence work, support for the National Congress, and the effective help of the citizenry.

We must all support the authorities and those who fall every day in the streets of Medellin, gunned down by narco-terrorism's paid assassins. Everyone must take part in this collective effort, this common front, to eradicate the country's violence. No more giving in to terrorism, no more concessions to violence. Despite the [word indistinct] of the violence, Colombian society has not disintegrated, as the fanatics who support an increase in strife would like. On the contrary, the country advances and struggles to come out of poverty thanks to the valor of good Colombians and the overwhelming optimism that allows them to overcome every obstacle to make Colombia a better place for everyone. [passage omitted]

The missions the government has entrusted to the Colombian Air Force have been fulfilled with professionalism and an elevated sense of military sacrifice and loyalty. I extend to you, military flyers, Colombia's grateful thanks. [applause]

Police Report Capture of Escobar Cartel Figure

PA0611185892 Paris AFP in Spanish 1655 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Excerpt] Medellin, Colombia, 6 Nov (AFP)—The Colombian police reported on 6 November the capture of Joaquin Espinosa, alias "Boliqueso" or "Yupi," in Medellin. Espinosa had replaced Brance Munoz Mosquera, also known as "Tyson," as head of Pablo Escobar's cocaine trafficking cartel.

Without giving further details on the arrest of the criminal, the police reported he has been transferred under strict security measures to Santa Fe de Bogota, 500 km southeast of Medellin, where he was placed in the custody of the office of the Prosecutor General of the Nation, which is responsible for combating drug trafficking.

"Tyson" was killed by the police in an operation in the Belen neighborhood of Medellin on 28 October. Since

then, a wave of assassinations of policemen brought the number of victims to 19 on 6 November with the killing of a 17-year-old who was doing his obligatory military service in that institution. [passage omitted]

Defense Minister Authorizes Self-Defense Groups

PA0611175292 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1632 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] When the country's cattlemen opened their annual congress, they criticized the government and demanded from the president permission to wage total war against guerrillas.

Defense Minister Rafael Pardo has authorized the military forces, with the country's cattlemen, to devise and conduct special plans to combat the subversives. In response to the request from the National Cattle Breeders' Association [Fedegan] for permission to declare total war, Pardo said he supports a joint struggle by civilians and Armed Forces to fight the scourge of the guerrillas. Among those attending the closing of Fedegan's annual congress, the minister's words were interpreted as an authorization to create self-defense groups that would still operate within the law.

[Begin Pardo recording] We will issue clear instructions to the military forces and the National Police to contact cattlemen associations on a departmental, regional, and local level to devise plans and take actions to fight the subversives and criminals in their respective zones. [applause] [end recording]

The struggle against the guerrillas goes even beyond that. The minister announced the military units will act as judiciary police in areas with public disorder problems. This means soldiers will pick up the dead in combat and conduct any necessary investigations to establish responsibility. The cattlemen's response to the minister's radical proposal was immediate.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Are you people willing to arm yourselves to confront the subversives?

[Unidentified cattleman] Of course. We have no other choice. If we have to arm ourselves to support the government and the country, we will do it. In Cordoba, we acted a little ahead of the minister and created groups that have proved very efficient in fighting guerrillas. They are self-defense groups created by the Cordoba cattlemen. We were concerned because the government had not legalized this situation. [end recording]

Governor Denies Guerrillas Control Arauca Department

PA0611151492 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Nov 92

[Telephone interview with Arauca Department Governor Alfredo Colmenares by unidentified station reporters—live]

[Text] [First reporter] Arauca Department Governor Alfredo Colmenares has said something that is extremely serious and yet not surprising. He said some zones in Arauca are totally under guerrilla control. Mr. Governor, good morning. Are a large number of zones under guerrilla control?

[Colmenares] I would like to tell the people that accurate descriptions are one thing and half-truths are another. Journalists have come to Arauca and seen guerrilla camps, which do exist. I do want to point out, however, this is not how the whole department is living. The camps are isolated; they control very small zones. Democracy exists in Arauca. Proof of that is the headway we are making in the process to bring legitimacy to vast areas where the conflict is raging. For example, the Liberal Party snatched Tana Municipality from the Patriotic Union [UP]. Considering the town was located in a strife-torn zone and the UP wholly controlled it, this proves something different is taking place, that institutions and the legitimacy of the state are making headway.

[First reporter] You also voiced disagreement with the government's views on handling public order in your department.

[Colmenares] My disagreement with the government is often prompted by its lack of understanding of the situation here. When the public order situation was reviewed during the recent governors summit, we found more points of concurrence than of disagreement. The national government has a peace strategy, but it needs to be further nourished by local elements. Nobody has the final word on peace. As the government minister stated, we need to use our imagination more to see if we can put an end to this conflict and madness by the guerrillas, who are the cause of so much despair and dread among a large number of people. You can rest assured that the man at the head of this department is struggling for our institutions and was even the victim of a guerrilla attack.

It would make no sense to report from here that Arauca is in the hands of the guerrillas, experiencing a more difficult situation, or is ruled by the guerrillas. That is totally false; we can prove it with the facts and not just words.

[Second reporter] Ranking officials now see you as a disruptive element and not as an authority. Would you be ready to resign?

[Colmenares] I was elected by the people and that gives me legitimacy. Resigning does not depend on me but on the people who gave me this legitimacy. I think the government, after listening to the governors, changed its views about us. It found support and new ideas that will help government officials become enlightened to cope with the public order and war problem. I do not think it is advisable to create division between the government and governors. On the contrary, we need to give the impression of unity of command and views to handle the country's delicate situation.

[Second reporter] If that is so, why did you not abide by and respect the decision by the president and government minister against holding or sponsoring regional dialogues?

[Colmenares] We are obeying instructions. Many governors are convinced dialogue is no longer the way to cope with the war problem.

[Second reporter] What is that formula, if not dialogue?

[Colmenares] If not dialogue, the formula would be really to analyze the situation. I feel the problem is that the guerrillas no longer have a political plan but an economic plan. So what must we do? We must destroy their finances so they cannot act as a disruptive element. The guerrillas no longer have a political plan, and by that I mean I do not feel the guerrillas plan to go to Narino Palace or take over the governorships. They want to maintain economic status or an economic system in the country. The war did not begin in Arauca. It stemmed from a national conflict and, as security corps have stated, the guerrillas are chiefly financed by drug trafficking and kidnappings. I want to tell the people we have no drug trafficking and nobody has been kidnapped this year in Arauca.

Equador

Duran-Ballen Sends Messages to Clinton, Bush

PA0711184292 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1707 GMT 7 Nov 92

[Text] Quito, 7 Nov (EFE)—In an official message made public on 7 November, Ecuadoran President Sixto Duran-Ballen asked U.S. President-elect Bill Clinton to establish "effective measures that will allow the people of Latin America to overcome their problems and strengthen their democracies."

Duran-Ballen congratulated Clinton for his victory in the 3 November elections and hoped that U.S.-Ecuadoran relations will grow deeper.

"I hope that during your government the Initiative for the Americas will materialize through effective measures," Duran-Ballen added in his message to Clinton, alluding to the continental integration plan formulated by outgoing U.S. President George Bush.

In another, much warmer, message to Bush, the Ecuadoran president described him as "a great statesman and interpreter of the problems of his country and of the world."

During the U.S. electoral campaign and even on 3 November, Duran-Ballen, who was born in Boston (U.S.) 71 years ago, did not conceal his preference for Bush.

"I am honored to have had your personal friendship for many years and I thank you for the support you offered me at the beginning of my government," the Ecuadoran president added in his effusive message to Bush.

Congress President on Session To Dismiss Ministers

PA0811023992 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] Carlos Vallejo, National Congress president, is summoning a new extraordinary period of sessions solely to oversee the actions of the cabinet ministers. Vallejo defended the call to impeach Andres Barreiro, Energy and Mines minister; Mauricio Pinto, industry, commerce, integration, and fisheries minister; and Pablo Better, former finance and public credit minister.

[Begin Vallejo recording] There should be no doubt. There is no desire to annoy the executive or to remove the ministers because we do not like them. We do it because that is what the law, public morals, and the conscience of the people order. [end recording]

Vallejo noted the impeachment request by several deputies will be heeded and he guaranteed all legal requirements have been met so the trials are properly conducted and are not distorted.

Deputy Alvear Comments

PA0611230392 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Nov 92

[Report by Jorge Ivan Melo; monitored in progress]

[Text] ...sessions of the National Congress. Congress President Carlos Vallejo stated that he will call for a special session to process the three summons that he is handling.

In the face of this, pro-government Deputy Manuel Alvear stated that he does not understand the Congress president's rush to call for special sessions to summon the ministers of the current administration.

[Begin Alvear recording] We do not understand the rush or necessity to fire one or two ministers from the cabinet of President Sixto Duran-Ballen. The president recently asked for time to analyze the economic measures. At some point, there was even some positive comments from the displaced social sector. However, it seems that they want to fire one of two ministers, regardless if they are acting correctly or not. [end recording]

Meanwhile, the current period of sessions is about to conclude the first debate on reforms to the Constitution. After this, the lawmakers will begin voting on each article to conclude the first debate.

It is expected that during the current and special congress sessions, the plenary of the permanent legislative commissions can learn about and discuss the 16th salary bonus.

Cuba Seeks New Crude Oil Purchase Agreement

PA0711173092 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Nov 92

[Text] The governments of Cuba and Ecuador are trying to reach commercial agreements that would make viable the sale of Ecuadoran crude oil to Cuba. Cuban Ambassador to Ecuador Faure Chomon said that Cuba purchases oil from Ecuador under international market conditions and reported that an agreement is sought to renegotiate the purchase of crude oil, given that the last negotiating formula ended several months ago.

The ambassador recalled that Ecuador negotiated Cuban oil purchases through triangular sales. In other words, the Russians delivered oil to Ecuadoran clients in Europe and in exchange Ecuador delivered oil to Cuba. The ambassador stressed that between 1990 and 1991, Ecuador negotiated with Cuba for four million barrels of oil. Because of the situation in Russia, the agreement ended.

Paraguay

Military, Police Communique Urges Unity

PY0711121092 Asuncion Red Nacional de Television in Spanish 0130 GMT 7 Nov 92

[Armed Forces and Police communique read by Army Commander Division General Pedro de la Cruz Concepcion Ocampos, Air Force Commander Brigadier General Jose Cespedes Zarza, and Navy Commander Vice Admiral Eduardo Gonzalez Petit in the presence of Police Chief Inspector General German Franco Vargas, in Asuncion—recorded]

[Text] [Admiral Gonzalez Petit] With the authorization of the commander in chief of the Armed Forces and in accordance with the circumstances the country is experiencing, the institutions of defense and of law and order would like to convey to the people the following official communique through the words of Army Commander Division General Pedro de la Cruz Concepcion Ocampos.

[Gen. Ocampos] In the name of the Armed Forces and the police I would like to convey fraternal greetings to my dear countrymen. By embracing you with the sincerity of a soldier I invite you to serenely reflect on this important stage of the national life without any other purpose than to build together a more just and fraternal society where our children can continue to enjoy the benefits of peace.

The transition process toward democracy can only be achieved and consolidated by ridding ourselves of all selfishness, and by appealing decisively to the good will and patriotic effort of all Paraguayans. Those sectors of society who do not abide by the laws and maintain good habits and a harmonic and civilized coexistence could seriously jeopardize the democratic postulates of the nation. The blood shed by the sons of the fatherland on the dawn of Saint Blas patron day should become a commitment for all of us, civilians and those in uniform, to work for a fortunate and dignified future for our descendents without hate or bitterness, and that the long dark night of a stage that has already been overcome should never again cover our dear fatherland.

As soldiers who have taken their oath we reaffirmed our firm purpose that we will never allow a return to that dark past. We unquestionably emphasize that the Armed Forces and police will remain firmly faithful to the postulates of the 2 and 3 February 1989 proclamation. As we identify ourselves with that proclamation we have concentrated all our discipline and obedience to make the state of law a reality. The common dedication to serve the fatherland and the institutions represented here will always be the link between all its members. Loyalty is not mere rhetoric under special circumstances but the fraternal link that would unify the efforts under the conviction that the battle cannot be won alone. Our honor is our loyalty.

The memory of our warriors who fought throughout history imposes on us the commitment and duty to warn those who speculate in opening gaps in the institutional structures, that their obscure purposes will inevitably collide with the firmness of our decision to maintain and ensure this process.

Democracy is an achievement conquered by the people and for the people, and we men in uniform are and will be relentless and zealous guards of its enforcement. Democracy is an irreversible reality in our country.

Today, we once again ratify the commitment we assumed on that historical day in which we decided to bring freedom, seeking the much desired well-being for all. We have opened the doors to democracy, that supreme achievement which more than one generation did not know and which some sectors of society, motivated by obscure interests, are currently manipulating, trying to take us back to times we must definitively forget.

On this occasion, we reassert our subordination and loyalty to the Armed Forces commander in chief with the certainty that he will lead us along a path of honor in benefit of the high interests of the fatherland as unyielding guarantors of the freedom conquered with the supreme sacrifice of those who participated on the events of Candlemas day [2 February]. Those events make us firmly respect our pledge of loyalty to the Armed Forces institutions.

Paraguay currently enjoys freedom which must not be mistaken for a libertinism that intends to sow fear, hatred, distrust, and anarchy which for decades prevailed and subdued our stoic people.

The Armed and Security Forces were born with our fatherland, and the people themselves are part of their ranks, ready to defend their sovereignty.

The illustrious figure of the military man is present throughout the national territory, bringing security and seeds of peace, harmony, and progress.

Faithful to their commitment with democracy, the Armed and Security Forces have adapted themselves to the deep changes, readapting their actions to the challenges imposed by the new times.

[Brigadier General Jose Cespedes Zarza] The Air Force, which participated in that glorious event, states and reiterates that the task of national defense and internal security pertains to us all, under the same flag of harmony, peace, and well-being.

[Vice Admiral Eduardo Gonzalez Petit] In tribute to the sacrifice and the blood spilt by our brave soldiers, the Armed and Security Forces of Paraguay reassert their unbendable commitment to guarantee the democratic process, promising to never again return to those times of the past, now overcome.

Domingo Laino Wins PLRA Presidential Nomination

PY0911032992 Asuncion Red Nacional de Television in Spanish 0235 GMT 9 Nov 92

[Text] At 2240, Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA] hopeful Dr. Domingo Laino arrived at the headquarters of the PLRA electoral court to be officially confirmed as the PLRA presidential nominee for the 1993 presidential elections. Laino's ticket partner Dr. Juan Manuel Benitez Florentin was also present.

Laino has just greeted the members of the PLRA electoral court, and is now being congratulated on his nomination.

[Begin Laino recording] Thank you very much for a job well done. [end recording]

Laino is now meeting with the members of the electoral court, and we will now hear the official electoral court statement.

[Begin recording] [Electoral Court Chairman Enrique Arbo] Dr. Domingo Laino, our party's electoral court has met to welcome you in connection with the important event that has taken place, and bearing in mind that Francisco de Vargas, the leader of one of our party factions, has already acknowledged the results of the first unofficial vote count. For this reason the party electoral court has convened to meet with you.

[Laino] Dr. Arbo, I would like to convey to you, as the chairman of the independent electoral court of our party, my admiration for the outstanding job you and the members of the electoral court have done. We are aware that this is a most difficult job because you are not financially compensated in any way. You and the other members of the court, however, can rest assured that you will receive moral compensation from the people of the PLRA, who will never forget your hard, impartial, and objective toil, which gave the finishing touch to these elections marked by decency, respect, and a mature approach to our differences.

Never has the PLRA held elections with so many candidates for governors, deputies, senators, members of the party executive board, and presidential and vice presidential nominees.

You, as chairman of the independent electoral court, and the other members, Ramirez Zambonini, Jimenez, and Benitez Colnago, have behaved with propriety. I believe that the accuracy of your decisions has allowed maturity and decency to prevail in these extremely difficult elections with so many candidates. Mr. Chairman of the independent electoral court, we are deeply moved, and would like to tell you that this maturity and decency is evidence of the civic spirit that has prevailed within the PLRA. [end recording]

President Files Slander Charges Against Nogues

PY0411212092 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 4 Nov 92 p 9

[Excerpt] Following strict instructions from the attorney general, First Criminal Court Prosecutor Wilfrido Velazquez Ferreira represented the executive branch and filed criminal charges against engineer Enrique Nogues.

Attorney General Luis Escobar Faella received instructions to file action from the chief executive, General Andres Rodriguez, after the remarks made by engineer Nogues about his detention following the coup carried out on 2 and 3 February [1989].

In the brief presented to the criminal judge on duty, the plaintiff said Nogues slandered the president of the Republic. According to the brief, Nogues said that Rodriguez was the "mastermind" of the events involving his detention and alleged blackmail that he allegedly experienced by the Asuncion police.

Speaking of General Francisco Sanchez Gonzalez, the former Asuncion police chief, Nogues said this police officer "represents a link in this entire scheme, in this entire group." The brief presented by the plaintiff notes: "The police chief represented the beginning of deliberate and organized blackmail."

According to the brief, engineer Nogues took advantage of freedom of the press to slander the chief executive by saying: "Gen. Rodriguez is the mastermind of all this. I will confirm this, with documents, before Congress."

The brief adds: "The transcribed passage expresses personal slander against someone who, bearing in mind his investiture, although he feels like an ordinary Paraguayan citizen, deserves full respect and consideration from his fellow citizens."

The plaintiff asked the judge to receive the charges and noted that he rejects any act of reconciliation that the court might order. [passage omitted]

U.S. 'Protectionism' Under Clinton Noted

PY0611204092 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 6 Nov 92 p 16

[Editorial: "The Clinton Presidency"]

[Text] The replacement of a Republican president by a Democratic president signals, in our time, major changes not only in the United States but also worldwide. A sense of high expectations already can be perceived in the world after the spectacular victory by Clinton, who will assume the leadership of the leading world power on 20 January.

In our country, there is also speculation as to the impact the change in the U.S. Presidency will have on our country. Local political leaders thus far have reacted cautiously, sometimes pessimistically, in light of how little is known about Clinton's plans for Latin America because as a candidate he said very little on the subject. Besides, the lack of enthusiasm shown by the new White House tenant about integration projects with Mexico also has been taken into consideration and, thus, the resulting conclusions are inevitably discouraging.

It also is being taken into consideration that Clinton emphasized the economy throughout his campaign, but not that of the world under U.S. leadership, rather the United States with regard to the world. Within this context, he announced that he will seek to promote prosperity again in the United States, to generate jobs at home instead of elsewhere to reduce U.S. unemployment, to make U.S. industries regain their competitiveness, to protect them against the aggressive exporting policy of European and Asian countries, and to regain leadership in advanced technology. With this announcement, he is conveying the idea that international cooperation will be reduced and that the United States will focus on its own back yard, as was said at a televised international panel discussion, thus showing less concern than Bush for what goes on in the world. Furthermore, based on these considerations stemming from Clinton's political speeches, it can be inferred that his protectionism through customs barriers will be tighter in the future, which might have serious consequences, especially for Latin America.

Another variable is that U.S. protectionism will be set up to stop the explosive competition posed by Japan, whose industries have flooded the U.S. market with cars and electronic equipment. U.S. protectionism, however, will not be limited to Japan, but will affect the entire world. Based on these possibilities, international analysts believe Japan will face serious difficulties in finding markets for its products. Japan inevitably will have to find such markets outside the United States, and the Asian giant might turn its eyes on Latin America with the dual purpose of first aiding Latin American countries to achieve development and prosperity and then to allow us to become good trade partners. Because in economic matters everything is possible, perhaps our country might obtain the type of aid it needs to achieve development in this way...and to strengthen its purchasing power.

On the political front, the Democrats traditionally have been—especially under Carter—faithful guardians of human rights around the world, but they are more inclined to rhetoric compared to the Republicans, who do not hesitate in undertaking vigilante-type actions, pressures, sanctions, and threats to enforce such rights. The great question is whether virtually newborn democracies such as ours will enjoy the same protection under Clinton than it did under Bush. For the time being, Ambassador Glassman has not missed the opportunity of suggesting in recent remarks that the U.S. diplomatic service is independent from both the ruling and opposition party, and that he is a career diplomat. Incidentally, he noted that Clinton may have replaced Bush in Washington, but Glassman will continue to be Glassman, until he is replaced.

Peru

Fujimori Delays Death Penalty Referendum

PA0811042892 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Nov 92

[Text] President Alberto Fujimori stated the referendum to establish the death penalty for terrorists will not be held during the elections to the CCD [Democratic Constituent Congress] as was originally announced. He noted holding it next year with the municipal elections or in February is under consideration. The president announced that next week provisions will be issued extending the benefits of the repentance law to persons tried and convicted of terrorism, except the chieftains who have been given life imprisonment.

[Begin recording] [Fujimori] I publicly proposed the possibility of holding a referendum to create the death penalty. There are two reasons preventing the referendum. The first is the time limitation. The elections for the CCD are upon us. The other reason has to do with the security measures, as a referendum that may establish the death sentence for terrorist chieftains will obviously provoke a reaction, and we would have to take additional security measures. Holding the referendum now is impossible because of time limitations.

[Unidentified reporter] When will the referendum be held?

[Fujimori] The referendum will have to be held anyway.

[Reporter] When?

[Fujimori] I hope we can hold it as soon a possible.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Fujimori] That could be, we are going to analyze it.

[Reporter] Could it be held in February?

[Fujimori] It could be.

[Reporter] A few days ago, Colonel Manuel Tumba, a ranking officer of the Counterterrorism National Directorate, was killed. How did this happen?

[Fujimori] It is very regrettable that a very distinguished officer who was very committed to the struggle against terrorism was cowardly killed. I also interpret this as a serious warning to everybody to be alert. The Shining Path was struck in the heart, at the highest levels. It may react like a wounded tiger. This is what the murder of Col. Tumba means. It also means the Shining Path is breathing its last gasp. I repeat my government has the commitment to eradicate the Shining Path from Peruvian soil because of a crime like this one and all the crimes the group has perpetrated.

[Reporter] What is the effect of the repentance law?

[Fujimori] The repentance law has had a positive impact. It is still very effective. The number of people surrendering is growing every day. Hundreds of so-called militants have surrendered. The most important people who surrender are the leaders, because this allows us to continue arresting top-level leaders. The extension of the repentance law to cover those tried and convicted may be formalized next week. To date, it only covers those who are not in jail. The law will be extended because the need has arisen and we have cases of people tried and convicted who are expressing repentance. This is extraordinary and special. It will enable us to continue making arrests.

[Reporter] To what level of leadership will this law apply?

[Fujimori] Good question. The law can only be applied to a certain level. Those who have been convicted or may be convicted to life in imprisonment, I mean those accused of treason to the fatherland, cannot in any way receive the benefits of this law. [end recording]

Violence Continues Despite Guzman's Arrest

PA0611213892 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] Despite the arrest of Abimael Guzman, there has apparently been no decline in violence by the Shining Path. In October alone, 245 people were killed, according to former Senator Enrique Bernales, an expert on the subject. Added to those who were killed earlier this year, the total comes to 2,540, according to figures released by the former senator's Constitution and Democracy Center. Contrary to what people might have supposed, there has been no significant decline in the rate of attacks and murders by this criminal group since 12 September, when Shining Path leader Abimael Guzman was captured. Bernales said perhaps the middle-level Shining Path commanders have taken over leadership of the group now that the main political leaders are behind bars.

[Begin Bernales recording] The Shining Path military commanders have been affected very little by the arrests because of the Shining Path's decentralized structure. Thus, those military commanders who do not appear on videotapes, because they have been successful at concealing their identity, are in a position to take over political command. [end recording]

Another very noticeable matter is the great number of government forces, both police and servicemen, who have been killed so far this year: 403 of them, according to data gathered by the Center. The Center has also investigated the mysterious deaths of the Huancayo university students, a case that has been reported worldwide.

Despite police intelligence efforts in the antisubversive struggle, the government has yet to implement a real policy regarding terrorists who have repented and surrendered to the Church.

[Begin Bernales recording] I think that is very important. I believe we have to continue to encourage this, and at the same time, I think we have to formulate a policy for those who repent. That step is missing. Those people must not only do their military service; they must also be incorporated into society. They have to become useful citizens again. Jobs have to be created. Otherwise, their repentance might be temporary, and they might fall back into their old ways. [end recording]

Ministry's Drug Control Directorate in 'Disarray'

PY0511225092 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 29 Oct 92 p A10

[Text] The Industry Ministry's Chemical Components Control Directorate [Direccion de Control de Insumos Quimicos del Ministerio de Industrias], one of the key organizations for the effective control of drug processing and marketing in our country, is reportedly on the verge of losing its leadership due to the resignation of personnel specialized in this field and the disarray prevailing in the management of the struggle against drug trafficking and the unending struggles to control strategic positions.

This information was released by a high-ranking government official. This organization is in charge of conducting the appropriate monitoring of the products likely to be diverted for illegal use by the drug trade.

According to the source, this directorate has been developing thorough work in the last few years. The directorate, in coordination with the Sunad [National Customs Administration Superintendency] and the authorities in exporting countries, managed to identify and control, as soon as they enter the country, more than 20 chemical substances required to process cocaine paste and washed coca paste, as well as pure cocaine.

The directorate also managed to compile a registry of distribution and marketing companies engaged in the

importation and sale of these products. The network involves more than 20,000 large, medium, small, and micromarketing enterprises operating throughout our country.

Nevertheless, despite this "titanic effort, the aforementioned public office did not receive an appropriate infrastructure or facilities; on the contrary, it confronted much interference and obstacles while doing its work," the source noted.

It is known that this situation will be reached within the next few days with the irrevocable resignation of the Industry Ministry's current Chemical Components deputy director, Lilia Osorio Bryson, who currently is one of 10 UN consultants on this issue at the international level.

This situation will be counterproductive and will complicate even more the prospects concerning international assistance for the antinarcotics struggle because the aforementioned official is a well-known expert who also conducted coordinated tasks with foreign organizations such as the DEA.

Coca Leaf Production Increases in San Martin

PY0511004692 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 29 Oct 92 p A10

[Excerpts] Antonio Moreno Vargas, vice president of the Maselva Producers company and the Selva Maestra Agrarian Federation, Fasma, based in San Martin region, has reported that coca leaf production is increasing in this area because of the recent measures adopted by the government on the importation of corn and other supplies.

It has been estimated that an average of 10,000 new hectares of coca leaf will be produced this year, a fact that curtails the progress made with the creation of joint-production enterprises handled by the local producers themselves. These enterprises were designed to purchase, industrialize, and trade the products, and to meet the demands of the regional market.

This project was part of the ambitious alternative production program intended to replace coca leaf with crops that can be sold at the same price.

Moreno said the situation of local producers is critical, and that at one time it was expected that things were about to improve with the installation of five enterprises, including the Arrosansa, [not further identified], the Gasansa, [not further identified], and with the coffee and tapioca producers, who were expected to purchase the products from the farmers at prices that would allow them to at least survive. The government, however, adopted a series of measures that prevented these enterprises from competing in the regional market at a time when peasants began to be motivated and to double their corn and rice plantings.

The San Martin producers referred to Decree Law No. 25748 issued on 28 September in which the new text of the general sales tax and the selective consumption tax was approved. [passage omitted]

Consequently, the San Martin producers cannot compete with their products because the corn planted in the area costs $210 per tonne in Iquitos, the main consumption center, while the same product imported from Brazil costs $147 per tonne in the same port.

Moreno also reported that another negative factor for the producers' agricultural and industrial project is the rising price of washed coca paste and cocaine paste. One kg of cocaine paste is worth 800 to 1000 soles in the region.

The price for four or five tonnes of corn is equivalent to 1 kg of cocaine base. A corn producer needs six months to sell his production, and a coca leaf producer just three. He said: "The differences are very huge."

1,500 Rebels Reportedly Surrender to Authorities

PA0811214992 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Nov 92

[Text] The repentance law is yielding the expected results, as since it went into effect 1,500 terrorists have laid down their weapons and surrendered to the authorities all over the country, according to military sources. Most of the persons who surrender are from the Mantaro, Ucayal, and Guamanga zones, although many cases have also been reported in Lima and other provinces.

Although many terrorists who wish to forsake extremist groups are skeptical about the virtues of the law and wonder if the law will be complied with, the fact is a growing number of terrorists are joining the ranks of citizens who abide by the laws and respect the public order forces. Our source said the repentant terrorists are being guarded outside garrisons or gathering points. The investigation of each one of them takes at least one month. Most of the subversives were forcibly enrolled in the Shining Path and played a minor role in acts of terrorism. Once their intention of rejoining society is proven, these people will have the opportunity to begin a new life with all the necessary guarantees.